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lesbians, diane, tonight, acrobatic, gay, fcc, circus, call, skydiving, bus, group, performing, heard, jerry, cool, switchboard, houston, sarah, place, ice cream

SPEAKERS

Jewel Gray, [Music], Jimmy Carper, Speaker 1

J Jimmy Carper 00:07

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some, listener discretion is advised. Whoa, it must be Saturday night at midnight because you're listening to After Hours, of continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of After Hours is ready to bring you news, interviews, and music, here for gay and lesbian people. Just as Gloria Gaynor says in this song, it's time to open up your closets. We at After Hours urge everyone to come out of their closets. By our definition, that means standing up for yourself and taking responsibility for your own life. But if you feel that you can't come out right now because of your age, your job or whatever reason. That's okay, we're here for you to sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of After Hours.

J Jewel Gray 01:33

I love it when he does that to me. We're on this Jewel Gray, you've found After Hours on your dial, KPFT. And I'm totally not ready. I'm sitting here reading The Advocate. There's an article in The Advocate this week about Amanda Bearse who plays on Married With Children.

J Jimmy Carper 01:52

Oh, and what an article it is. Hi, it's Jimmy and you are

J Jewel Gray 01:57

Jewel Gray.

J Jimmy Carper 02:00

And this is After Hours, a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston, 90.1.

J Jewel Gray 02:07
Oh yeah, we want to tell you tonight. And this last week has been marathon week here. And,

J Jimmy Carper 02:14
Membership drive is the official title.

J Jewel Gray 02:17
Marathon, what it used to be marathon.

J Jimmy Carper 02:19
It used to be a marathon but now we're more interested in members, members, getting new members members. That means that you're part of the KPFT family.

J Jewel Gray 02:31
Family of radio listeners. There we go. No, no, no, no, I get nothing. Okay. We're, we're fooling around with the board. And my expertise technical director here is dashing between his seat at his mic and the board over here.


J Jimmy Carper 02:51
Yes, it's a little difficult.

J Jewel Gray 02:52
So we'll be talking about a little about membership drive and what you can do and how to participate and how to help programs like After Hours and the program that we just listened to,


J Jimmy Carper 03:05
African Kaleidoscope.


J Jewel Gray 03:07
Those shows to keep those on the air, you can, we'll tell you how to do that. Get a pencil and paper handy tonight. And we'll give you some phone numbers. There'll be some interesting

paper nandy tonight. And we'll give you some phone numbers. There'll be some interesting stuff. We're going to talk to a lesbian clown. Who's in town, who's in town this week. And probably I think she said till the 23rd doing various benefits around town with the Ben and Jerry show, which was real impressive. And we're going to talk to her a little bit. She'll talk to us about the, what she does. From what I understand, it's kind of like a vaudevillian show.


 Jimmy Carper 03:40
Oh, yeah?

 Jewel Gray 03:41
Comprised of all lesbians.


 Jimmy Carper 03:43
No, you're kidding me. This is wonderful.


 Jewel Gray 03:46
One, one of them, yhe woman out here is Diana. She does, I believe an acrobatic clown act. And there's another woman who manages to sneak a, slip free of the bounds of a straitjacket that I'd like to see. A lesbian slipping free of a straitjacket.


 Jimmy Carper 04:04
Straitjacket, boy.


 Jewel Gray 04:06
Yes, I'm, probably should take note. Haha. Evelyn is here tonight. We're trying to beg her in here to talk a little bit. And maybe she'll tell us a little bit about fundraising going on at Switchboard. We have This Way Out tonight.

 Jimmy Carper 04:20
We do. The entire This Way Out because it's neat gang.

 Jewel Gray 04:24
And we have a special interview.


 Jimmy Carper 04:28
With a third. Well, it's a it's an essay that a 13 year old girl did for school on history of the gay community.


 Jewel Gray 04:42
And Jimmy assures me that it's very good.


 Jimmy Carper 04:44
Let me tell you in like 10 minutes, she packs it all in there and better than anything I've ever read for out of the gay press.

 Jewel Gray 04:53
Well I can't wait to hear that.

 Jimmy Carper 04:55
She's straight by the way.


 Jewel Gray 04:56
We also have another interview that we might get to later from I'm about plump, Polanco, Palumbo?


 Jimmy Carper 05:04
Juan Palomo?


 Jewel Gray 05:05
No, no, no. The umpire.

 Jimmy Carper 05:08
Oh, Dave Pallone.





 Jewel Gray 05:11
Pallone.


 Jimmy Carper 05:11
Yeah.


 Jewel Gray 05:12
The umpire. Maybe we'll get to that, maybe we won't, depends on how much I can, because Diana-- Diane is not here tonight, I'm going to be winging it. So it depends on if I get onto a spiel.


 Jimmy Carper 05:24
Oh, was that the deal? Diane is supposed to be here tonight.


 Jewel Gray 05:28
Yes, she's not going to be.

 Jimmy Carper 05:29
Oh, okay.

 Jewel Gray 05:30
So we'll make that clear.

 Jimmy Carper 05:31
We're filling in for you, for her.

 Jewel Gray 05:33
Okay, she's listening. She's laughing her tushy off right now. I know it.

 Jimmy Carper 05:39
Oh, wow, quick. That's for you, Diane.

J Jewel Gray 05:43

And there's something else for Diane. I want to do real quick. So I don't forget. I want to say hi to Laura. Laura. You remember me? I used to live across the hall from you. And Diane made me swear I would tell you hi. And anyone listening from New and Used Books where our talented Diane has now become a part of their team over there. So anybody listening from New and Used Books, Diane is sick and she can't be here and you've got me Jewel Gray. Wait a minute, are we talking about our Diane? Yes.

J Jimmy Carper 06:15

Working?

J Jewel Gray 06:16

Yes.

J Jimmy Carper 06:20

She'll come down. Oh, yeah.

J Jewel Gray 06:22

She'd be calling us on the phone. Is it lit up yet?

J Jimmy Carper 06:25

I, really?

J Jewel Gray 06:27


Yeah.


J Jimmy Carper 06:28

At New and Used Books. At New and Used, where's that?


J Jewel Gray 06:29


Yeah. Over on Wall? In that New and Used over there?

 Jimmy Carper 06:34
You mean Half Price?


 Jewel Gray 06:35
I thought she said New and Used Books, isn't that, is that not New and Used Books over there?


 Jimmy Carper 06:40
Well, it's new and used, yeah.


 Jewel Gray 06:43
Well, there's a place called New and Used Books.

 Jimmy Carper 06:45
Oh, the name of it is New and Used.


 Jewel Gray 06:46
Okay. And then there's a place called Half Price but yeah, they're two different places.


 Jimmy Carper 06:50
Oh, okay.


 Jewel Gray 06:51
One of them is on Wall. I'm sure it's New and Used. Because I made her make sure she told me New and Used. I didn't want to be good.

 Jimmy Carper 06:56
Well, I hate to tell you this but so is Half Price.


 Jewel Gray 06:59


 Jewel Gray 06:59
Half Price. Well, one Half Price, New and Used, Half Price Books.


 Jimmy Carper 07:02
Is that Wall and Hyde Park?


 Jewel Gray 07:06
Hyde Park? Well, that's where she's working, I believe.


 Jimmy Carper 07:10
Well, Diane,


 Jewel Gray 07:13
Diane call us. Let's see. I also want to take a second and and tell Polo we'll be talking about the project red ribbon here tonight. So if you're interested later tonight, you can give us a call and we'll talk a little bit about it. And Michael Crawford I know you're listening, thank you.

 Jimmy Carper 07:29
Boy, did he and Scott work it last night?

 Jewel Gray 07:34
Oh yeah?

 Jimmy Carper 07:35
And oh, and Brian Bradley.

 Jewel Gray 07:37
Brian Bradley.

 Jimmy Carper 07:38
And of course Daddy Ray and that was the, that was the Take Back The Streets three. Had a good group.



Jewel Gray 07:46

That's what I heard. I heard was really well organized. And very,



Jimmy Carper 07:50

We walked the whole Montrose neighborhood and ended up right outside the studio here.



Jewel Gray 07:55

Yes, I heard. Unfortunately, have a 15 year old at home. I can't get out as often as I used to.



Jimmy Carper 08:02

Well, I had to show here at 10 o'clock. So it worked out great.



Jewel Gray 08:05

Great for you. Right on. Yeah. Hey, surrounded by hundreds adoring fans. Anyway, so we have a lot of stuff going on tonight we're going to talk a little bit about the lesbians in Fort Worth, who the judge granted adoption to.



Jimmy Carper 08:20

Isn't cool? And then fort Fort Wort, yes, go figure.



Jewel Gray 08:25

Go figure. Hey, it's a precedent and we're gonna be using that precedent all over this country. We'll also talk about Amanda Bearse from, with, Married With Children. And there's some piece in here about her and her lover adopting.



Jimmy Carper 08:36


There is a, that is a woman with her head screwed on right.





Jewel Gray 08:40


Sexy, sexy woman. I fell in love with this one. When I saw her do Fright Night. I knew she was a lesbian in that movie. I knew it. It was a cool little movie. Really overlooked by the critics. But it


lesbian in that movie. I knew it. It was a cool little movie. Really overlooked by the critics. But it was cool little movie. I really appreciated Roddy McDowall, and he's always one of my favorites. There's a new group in town, a skydiving group. We'll talk about that a little bit. And go through the paperwork and talk about some of this stuff. And, of course, for you lesbians out there who are interested in not just lesbians, but mostly lesbians are going to be interested in this, is the Lonestar Women's Music Festival is coming up. If you get your tickets now, it's a little cheaper than if you wait.


 Jimmy Carper 09:17
Oh, yeah.

 Jewel Gray 09:18
October 1 and third, first through the third and there'll be camping and they'll feed you.


 Jimmy Carper 09:24
Now this is for women only, huh.

 Jewel Gray 09:26
Well, I believe that it's open. I believe it's open but mostly women show up and they're very careful about the males they allow in.

 Jimmy Carper 09:34
I don't blame them.

 Jewel Gray 09:35
Yeah, I don't either.

 Jimmy Carper 09:36
Because this is ,this is kind of basically women only space.

 Jewel Gray 09:40
This woman I know from, Anahuac. Yeah, comes to the care center. periodically. She lives on a farm in Anahuac, wherever the hell Anahuac is.

J Jimmy Carper 09:51
It's not close.

J Jewel Gray 09:52
No, she says it's about 60 miles on I-10 Somewhere between here and Beaumont. And she shows up periodically. She's single woman who cans her own food and makes jelly and grows vegetables and she brings them over to care center. She cans jelly and, and grows, we recently, she gave us, oh, I don't know maybe 100 pounds of eggplant, potatoes, sweet potatoes, about 150 pounds of sweet potatoes.

J Jimmy Carper 10:22
Homegrown sweet potatoes, when's, when's dinner?

J Jewel Gray 10:26
Really. She was telling me the other day when she came in that she's going to this festival and I'm real jealous because I would like to have gone.

J Jimmy Carper 10:33
Oh, you're not going?

J Jewel Gray 10:34
Gone with her. Where's Evelyn? Yeah, she'll be in here in a minute. Give me that eye,

J Jimmy Carper 10:41
You're not going then I take it.

J Jewel Gray 10:43
Okay, oh, frankly I can't afford it. Oh, I work at the care center.

J Jimmy Carper 10:48
Is it kind of, is it pricey?



Jewel Gray 10:50

It can be pricey for those but it includes meals. It includes camping supplies, it include, it's just just a



Jimmy Carper 11:00

Out in the woods, right? It's just a



Jewel Gray 11:02

It's just a little bit of a hair under \$100. Okay, and they have three meals. Let's see, the tickets includes supper Friday, three meals Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Sunday. And camping for the time you're there. The, there'll also be showers and RV hookups and all the music and entertainment that will be going on so Alex Dobkin will be there. Monica Grant, Betty will be there,



Jimmy Carper 11:30

I've seen Monica Grant, oh, she's fine.



Jewel Gray 11:33

Yeah. Monica Grant.



Jimmy Carper 11:34

Betty. We've played we play Betty last week.



Jewel Gray 11:37

Girls in the know.



Jimmy Carper 11:39

Oh, radical women.



Jewel Gray 11:40

That's right. Diana Jones and the Tex Santa Dames. Also performing will be Mandy Woods, Sister heat, On the Verge, Nancy Scott, Gina Forsyth, Amazon Range Riders. Now I'd like to see

Sister Beat, on the verge, Nancy Scott, Linda Forsyth, Amazon Range Riders. Now I'd like to see the Amazon Range Riders, they have picked a name and pay.

J Jimmy Carper 11:58

No kidding.

J Jewel Gray 11:59

But for a few minutes, we're going to let me get my head screwed on straight here. And I don't need any comments from the peanut gallery. Cindy, if you're out there, I need you tonight. Give me a call. And we'll move right into our show.

J Jimmy Carper 12:13

Do you know what, we have not given the number for people who want to donate to?

J Jewel Gray 12:20

Is it different than the JAM KPFT?

J Jimmy Carper 12:22

No, it's that one.

J Jewel Gray 12:23

It's that one?

J Jimmy Carper 12:24

It's that one.


J Jewel Gray 12:25


So if you want to become a member with KPFT, I think that it is \$35 basic membership. You get

J Jimmy Carper 12:34


And on up you know, because they're different, for different price ranges are different thank you gifts that are really kind of neat. And the operator is standing by, sitting by actually.


 Jewel Gray 12:46
Matt's not out there. I'm hurt.


 Jimmy Carper 12:47
Oh, he isn't?


 Jewel Gray 12:48
I didn't see him out there. When I came in.

 Jimmy Carper 12:50
Well, Rick's out there.

 Jewel Gray 12:51
Rick's out there. Okay, so Matt's not here tonight for you, Matt followers.

 Jimmy Carper 12:54
Well, hope he comes in.

 Jewel Gray 12:56
For Matt's fans. Yeah. Do you have something queued up?

 Jimmy Carper 12:59
I do. I do. And and it's part of the reason that we really need this money, you know, because the public radio stations are under attack right now by the good Senator Dole, who has absolutely, evidently nothing else to do, but to worry about a couple of measly million. And I say that in all honesty, because when you're on the federal level, you know, those guys talk billions and trillions. And so a couple of million like gets lost in the roundoff like \$5. As a matter of fact, I believe it's written somewhere, KPFT gets maybe \$100,000 of federal money but that's an important \$100,000, and we you know, we may not be getting, getting it or we're gonna be getting a lot less of it so.



J Jewel Gray 13:49
It pays Garland's salary.

J Jimmy Carper 13:53
Just kidding Garland.

J Jewel Gray 13:57
Well, he dresses like he makes \$100,000

J Jimmy Carper 14:01
Oh, my God.

J Jewel Gray 14:05
We love you.

J Jimmy Carper 14:05
You have been listening to After Hours.

J Jewel Gray 14:08
No, this is another program let me think. Lesbian and Gay Voices. Okay, so we're gonna go to what?

J Jimmy Carper 14:18
Well, I've got something that I've been looking for a long, long time and finally came in. We used to have it here at the station. It's on record, and it's by a group called the Yeastie Girlz. So

J Jewel Gray 14:29
Yeastie Girlz. That's who you had in the intro, I heard that, the Yeastie Girlz on that?. You were primed to queue up.

J Jimmy Carper 14:35
Yes, that's exactly right. And oh, you heard that?

Yes, that's exactly right. And oh, you heard that?

J Jewel Gray 14:38
Yeah.

J Jimmy Carper 14:39
Oh, you heard that?

J Jewel Gray 14:40
Oh, no.

J Jimmy Carper 14:41
Okay.

J Jewel Gray 14:41
Oh, excuse us. we digress. Okay.

J Jimmy Carper 14:47
But they do little rap number about the FCC another great institution that that keeps us from saying a lot of things and and airing things that they think happened to be obscene or something and so why don't we listen to them and get to our interview?

J Jewel Gray 15:09
All right, all right. Push those little buttons, that one.

[[Music] 15:12
But we're not allowed because FCC is cracking down hard you wanting everything to sound just like a Hallmark card they won't even let us talk about number two and I wonder what they call it when they get it on the shoe. We know what would they use them but we can't say it because FCC is full of bull. We're the Yeastie Girlz and we're here to say that you better do something and right away. Yeah, you better wake up and start using your head because your first amendment rights are just about dead. Well, the FCC will tell you Oh, haven't you heard of freedom of speech is a dirty word. Well, the Yeasties got a message for the people who agree with the stupid regulations of the FCC. You think your kids would be corrupted if they hear

about poo, well, there's nothing wrong with them. We think the problem is you. Biology is neat we like our bodies just fine, keep telling us it's dirty well we say you're lying. They call it a free country but it feels like a prison so write the Federal Communication Commission. Get your pen and paper ready because here's the address 1919 M Street Northwest Washington, DC 20036. Tell them that they're stupid. Yeah, tell them that they're destroying our expression because they think it's outrageous. Tell them that they're living in the dark ages, we're the Yeastie Girlz and we're here to say we want the FCC to go away. Yeah, go away.

J Jewel Gray 16:43

Gotta go on the air right now. Okay, I'm on the air right now. We were expecting another. Oh, you're going to run a cart? No, not a cart. We were expecting another piece here just for a second so that we could, oh, it's all broke. No, the tape broke. We'll get notes from everywhere. Okay. Let's see. I want to read this. The Gay Men's Network will meet at Bering United Memorial Church located at 1440 Harold in room 210. From 7:30 until nine on Thursday, September 30. The topic for discussion will be Bart Loeser. I love Bart. He presents a wellness, the key to health and happiness. Bart also does a wonderful safe sex workshop. If you ever get an opportunity, it is really fun and informative. But if you want to take this wellness workshop with Bart, you can contact Rick at 522-5957. I told you get a pencil on one can or Albert 521-2296. And they want us to make sure you know that this is Gay Men's Network, not the Men's Network, not the Men's Network at the Montrose Counseling Center. Let's see, no that's for me personal contact. But if you get a chance take Bart's safe sex workshop, it's excellent. He presented a condensed version at the care center and was well received. So try that out. And I was just telling a friend of mine walked in to spend a few seconds with us. And I was just telling him there's a new group in town and man walked into the studio tonight and begged us to put this on. He's got a flyer here, take a jump into the history books. Skydive. Join the first world's, join the, the world's first lesbian and gay skydiving team. Wow, I love this and it's a flyer, a pink flyer. It looks cool. Skydiving team is now being formed, I wonder if they can go to the gay Olympics with this. They are making history by gathering together a group of enthusiastic, athletic, committed, and adventurous lesbians and gay men. Says to their knowledge is the world's first team of its kind so be part of history. Da, da, da, da, da, da, they answer some questions here. Is skydiving scar?. Oh yes, it says most skydivers report that their first jump was scary while the second one was terrifying. From there on, I guess that just spooked most people off. From there on as one becomes more comfortable feeling. being in the air the fear gradually disappears throughout a skydivers career, and hopefully respect for the sport is also maintained. Where does it where's it? There was one I saw a while ago. What does freefall feel like? Most skydivers describe freefall like flying, you don't get the feeling of falling. In fact, you feel as if you're being supported on a column of air. Most people have dreams at one time or another about flying, skydiving feels as close as you can get. Freefall is one of the greatest feelings in the world. You can contact John Grisak, G-R-I-S-A-K, anytime, no, not anytime it says daytime, not anytime, at 488-5576 or in the evening 334-4813 or you can contact us here to After Hours later in the evening, and we can give me those numbers again. Are we ready yet? Diane, I'm gonna kill you. Where are you at? We're not ready yet. Are we ready? We're ready. Okay, we're gonna go to something else. Or we're gonna do, I thought you were gonna do another song. No, he can't get going. Okay, we're gonna talk to Diane, Diana. I have too many Diane's in my life.

S Speaker 1 20:25

No, it's just Diane.

J Jewel Gray 20:26

Okay, cool. I thought I written down,

S Speaker 1 20:31

Di-ane. D-I-Ane. No, A on the end, an E. Not an A.

J Jewel Gray 20:36

We have too many Diane's in our line. Diane, Diana and Diane. Oh, let's see. Oh, check. So Diane, you're with Ben and Jerry's? Yeah. And you're doing a kind of a vaudevillian. When I said that the other day, you really grabbed at that so?

S Speaker 1 20:51

Yeah. Because people are usually like, what, what do you guys do in that big funny colored bus with those like, funny like little plate things on the top of it, which actually they're solar panels on top of this bus and they power the sound system and microwave oven, you know, the essentials.

J Jewel Gray 21:12

Tell us a little bit about your group. You told me on the phone that there are like four of you.

S Speaker 1 21:16

There are three of us performers. And we have our tour manager Bob and his wife, Gene, who, Bob drives a bus and Gene drives a backup van with the little ice cream freezer in it. The all important ice cream freezer.

J Jewel Gray 21:34

Sounds like the Partridge Family and your bus and everybody's like family like

S Speaker 1 21:40

Well, you know.

J Jewel Gray 21:42
Might be before your time.

S Speaker 1 21:44
Oh, not at all.

J Jewel Gray 21:48
Well, you said that the peak performers in your group are other lesbians. Are they all from San Francisco? You told me you from San Francisco are they all,

S Speaker 1 21:56
I am, there's another woman on the bus and she's from San Francisco too, her name's Sarah Felder. Hi, Sarah. Are you listening. And then there's,

J Jewel Gray 22:06
They're barhopping, you're here.

S Speaker 1 22:08
No, no, no, I'm barhopping. They're there. And there's Jennifer Miller. And she's. she lives in New York.

J Jewel Gray 22:16
In New York. How do you guys get together for this? I mean, was it an accident that you all were gay? Or it's just something that was designed?

S Speaker 1 22:23
Now there's theories on that whole gay thing if it's an accident or genes or what?

J Jewel Gray 22:30
So Ben and Jerry's got into genes, right? No. It wasn't an accident that all three of you got together, happened to be lesbians to do this thing?

S Speaker 1 22:39
Yeah. That was, that was cool. That was kind of a surprise. Yeah. Well, wasn't a surprise because I knew Sarah? And you know, she knew, I didn't know Jennifer. But Sarah said, oh, yeah, she is, too.

J Jewel Gray 22:49
Well, after three months on the road, I imagine you know, both of them pretty well now.

S Speaker 1 22:53
Oh, yeah. Yeah, yeah. Yeah. We all know each other.

J Jewel Gray 22:55
Oh, cool. Yeah. Well, tell me what you do. I know. You said you were a clown.

S Speaker 1 22:59
Yeah. I'm a acrobatic, acrobatics.

J Jewel Gray 23:02
What does that mean, you throw things at people?

S Speaker 1 23:04
No, usually people throw me around.

J Jewel Gray 23:06
Oh, really?

S Speaker 1 23:07
Yeah, I'm kind of short. I'm kind of short.

J Jewel Gray 23:09

Like shoot out of a cannon, that kind of throw you around?

S Speaker 1 23:11

Ah, yeah, go off like the teeter board. You know, that's the thing where I stand on one end of this incline plane, and somebody jumps on the other end, and I fly up in the air and I do like a flip and somebody will catch me or

J Jewel Gray 23:22

Damn, that turns me on. I want to try that. On a teeter board, you said. Yeah, Evelyn on a teeter board.

S Speaker 1 23:28

That's pretty much what, we don't do that in this show now, because well, the stage just doesn't allow for that sort of thing, actually, the stage pulls out from underneath the bus.

J Jewel Gray 23:38

So your guys are completely self-sufficient. Totally with even solar power.

S Speaker 1 23:44

Absolutely.

J Jewel Gray 23:45

Cool. You go on whether the lights go on or not, right?

S Speaker 1 23:49

Yeah, exactly if it rains, then it gets you know, because it's an outdoor kind of show. And you know, the stage gets slippery. And then we oh, we also have this inflatable that goes you know, it makes like a proscenium around the stage. And we fondly refer to this as Spike. Because well, if you see the whole setup, it, it is a spike. And yeah, that's really fun to deflate and fold up in a thunderstorm.

J Jewel Gray 24:15

I bet. Yeah. So tell me you said Jennifer was from New York. What does Jennifer do?

S

Speaker 1 24:19

Jennifer eats fire and does straitjacket escape and is a fantastic juggler as well as Sarah. They're both really great, great jugglers. I'm really pretty much the nonjuggler of the group.

J

Jewel Gray 24:35

So when you guys do this, you travel around and do these shows. You do one show a day?

S

Speaker 1 24:41

We do two shows a day, five days a week.

J

Jewel Gray 24:44

And you do this for benefit you told me? How does that work?

S

Speaker 1 24:47

Yeah. Well, who, whoever brings the show in like where were we today, we were at the Transco Park today and the shows today benefitted the Ronald McDonald House so that means like all the ice cream and T-shirts that we sell, all of that money goes to the Ronald McDonald House. Cool. And, you know, initially the Ronald McDonald House contacted, you know, the Ben and Jerry's show and said, hey, you need to do the show over here. And so yeah, we can do the show. And, you know, they sell the ice cream, and then it goes back into whoever brings it.

J

Jewel Gray 25:23

Cool. Can you, you also mentioned that you do, you're going to be doing several benefits. I mean, every day is a new benefit.

S

Speaker 1 25:28

Right, yeah.


J


Jewel Gray 25:29


And one of the benefits you're going to be doing is the End Hunger Network.


S


Speaker 1 25:32


 Speaker 1 25:33
Yeah, actually, we did that already.

 Jewel Gray 25:35
You did that already?


 Speaker 1 25:35
Yeah, we did that already.


 Jewel Gray 25:37
Giving them a plug. Oh, shoot. Well, I'm very, I worked very closely with the younger network and they've been very positive in the, I work for an adult PWA care center that the End Hunger Network supports and they've been very positive with us and I was really looking forward to giving them a plug but here's a plug anyway, the End Hunger Network, where people care.


 Speaker 1 25:58
There you go.

 Jewel Gray 25:59
And you, and you did a benefit and it turned out well?

 Speaker 1 26:01
Yeah, it was it went very well. We did that Friday.

 Jewel Gray 26:05
Friday. Do you want my glasses?

 Speaker 1 26:08
I forgot my glasses and the car.

 Jewel Gray 26:11
You get that where you need a longer arm and you're going to be doing something tomorrow?

Chase to Texas.

S

Speaker 1 26:17

That's right, the great, the great taste of Houston. Well, Greenway Plaza next to the Summit Houston.

J

Jewel Gray 26:25

Yeah, that's only a couple blocks from where I live.

S

Speaker 1 26:26

Oh well, shoot, come on down. We got shows at two o'clock and four o'clock.

J

Jewel Gray 26:31

Two o'clock, I think I'm going to baseball game but I think I'll be out by four. So and, who are you benefiting tomorrow?

S

Speaker 1 26:39

Oh tomorrow,

J

Jewel Gray 26:40

Way out there. Tomorrow.

S

Speaker 1 26:44

I'm assuming whoever put up puts on the great taste of Houston which I'm not sure but I think it is the police department of Houston.

J

Jewel Gray 26:50

The police department, and we have a on again, off again love affair with the police department, hate their police department here but we will say that if you're in the neighborhood, they could sure use the bucks, I'm sure. Maybe they're gonna buy faster cars, maybe you know what I'd like to see in every police car is a video camera. Because not only

does that protect you, it protects them and I think that's a good idea so maybe that, maybe some of this money that you guys will raise will help put some video cameras in the, in the cars.

S

Speaker 1 27:19

It's a good idea.

J

Jewel Gray 27:20

Yeah, I think that's a good idea. So, and what exactly, how does your show kind of pan out? Somebody comes out and makes a couple jokes and get some laughing and you said you're a clown, you come out white faced.

S

Speaker 1 27:32

Well, no I don't really wear wear white face I do incorporate a lot of mime and my in my character, but usually is just too hot to put on that grease, you know, it usually opens up, I'll kinda go out and work the crowd a little bit, scoot them up closer to the stage, jump on my unicycle, do some goofy stuff, and then Sarah come out and juggler bowling ball around and Jennifer comes out and needs a little bit of fire and these are all the warm up acts, the firing warm up act.

J

Jewel Gray 28:07

Yeah. Okay.

S

Speaker 1 28:10

And then, and then we start the show. And we have you know, we begin with like a little collage of acrobatics and various like little nifty little tricks and stuff and there's comedy in the show and skill and it's, we've gotten quite a bit of really, really great response from it. So I think people would really enjoy it, especially see three women really kicking butt up there up on that stage.

J

Jewel Gray 28:37

Well, yeah, you know, my real curiosity is what do these three gay women, how does it, what do you do when you pull into a new town, you call the local switchboard?

S

Speaker 1 28:47

I do, I do. That's, that's me

J Jewel Gray 28:50
You're leader the pack and will find out.

S Speaker 1 28:53
Yeah, I find, find out the information. Sarah's newly married and I went to her wedding, her and Deb's wedding, it was very nice.

J Jewel Gray 29:02
But it must be tough to be on the road and be

S Speaker 1 29:04
Yeah, she got married and a week later she went on the road.

J Jewel Gray 29:08
But what's it like being on the road for, I mean, you know, I mentioned it's just a little different when you're, when you happen to be gay because there are not a lot of opportunities in every single town you probably end up in,

S Speaker 1 29:20
Oh, let me tell you.

J Jewel Gray 29:22
Tell me. Tell us girl.

S Speaker 1 29:24
We pull in and, you know, this bus is big. Okay, it's a big bus.

J Jewel Gray 29:29
Is it like the Greyhound big bus?

S

Speaker 1 29:31

It's like a Greyhound big bus only it doesn't look at all like a Greyhound bus at all. And you know, like for instance we were in, we had like two weeks of gigs around the Chicago area. And there's not really like a, an RV park like in Chicago or anything so we were like an hour and a half away from the city, like in these you know these KOA campgrounds and well, me being a single lesbian, the KOA campgrounds is not exactly the best cruising place so, you know, yeah, it's a little frustrating but you know, luckily some of these KOA campgrounds do have pinball machines so I can like the release a little bit of that energy.

J

Jewel Gray 30:20

Pinball machines? Haven't, damn, I haven't seen a pinball machine in a long time. I take that back. We saw one the other night. That's right. That's right. So it's, uh, into one town, pick up the phone try to get ahold of like a connecting group like the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard here. Yeah, I understand you called the Switchboard here.

S

Speaker 1 30:37

Yeah. Wow, what a great switchboard.

J

Jewel Gray 30:39

And somebody turned you onto us, huh,

S

Speaker 1 30:41

Really helpful.

J

Jewel Gray 30:42

They love us there. They love us there.

S

Speaker 1 30:44

They're great.

J

Jewel Gray 30:44

They have to because we are are they.

S

Speaker 1 30:46

I tell you this is like one of the best ones, well, one of the absolute, you know, best ones that I've called, because a lot of times you call and the number's busy forever, or else it rings and nobody ever picks it up. Or it's disconnected. You know, and I couldn't believe like, I actually talked to a human being on the phone that wasn't a recording. And you know, they're very helpful, very helpful.

J

Jewel Gray 31:11

And connected you to us. And I'm really glad because this is, to me, very interesting stuff about being on the road. You know, I spent some time when I was a kid on the road. And I know that was hard once you move into a city to establish, you know, connect with people being on the road, no matter where you go, you never really, you never have the time to be intimate, to be connected in a friendship way, unless you've known people who just happen to live in that city that you're going to, must be kinda lonely.

S

Speaker 1 31:47

Yeah, it does get lonely. But you know, you on occasion, you run into those people that you make these connection with, and you exchanged some phone numbers, and those will turn out to be you know, real substantial friendships down the line, you know, you send postcards and stuff. And, you know, and say, wow, when you're back in this area again, you know, and I know that, you know, I offer that up, you know to you know, people that I meet you know, not everybody.

J

Jewel Gray 32:12

They breed, here's my number. Yeah, we'll stand out in front of JR's with your number later. There was a lot of lesbians going into JR's, I was impressed. I was real impressed. Don't go, yeah, go, go to JR's, it's, it's a place to hang out. Nothing I was kind of curious about was Ben and Jerry's? Do they, are they comfortable with this? Is this an open thing about you guys being lesbians in this group? I mean, I feel curious about this.

S

Speaker 1 32:50

I think if they haven't figured it out by now.

J

Jewel Gray 32:52

So it's not an overt thing. It's just happened to be,

S

Speaker 1 32:55

It just happened to be now that, you know, for this troupe in particular, they are thinking, see

it just happened to be now that, you know, for this troupe in particular, they are thinking gee, wouldn't it be a neat thing to have, you know, an all, you know, an all female troop this time? Because usually what it's been, it's been, you know, well, first, the first few troops, I guess were, you know, three guys, which, you know, it's, you know, it's easier to find three male jugglers, you know, face it, you know, and acrobats and his female, there just aren't that many of us out there. And then it turned into like two, two guys and a gal and then, you know, this time it just kind of fell into, into place, you know, to have three women on the troop. And that we were all gay. That was you know, I don't think you know, there wasn't like a little questionnaire, you know, like the army has, are you aren't you?

J Jewel Gray 33:43

Have you ever?

S Speaker 1 33:44

Have you ever, blah, blah, blah. Just kind of happened to be that way.

J Jewel Gray 33:48

Well, that's cool. Um, and Ben and Jerry's does this all over the country with different groups? You said something about like, for nine months out of the year, they send out groups and troops, you do three months and somebody else does three months.

S Speaker 1 34:01

Right. Right. The bus itself, the bus, you know, I mentioned earlier, Bob and Gene, you know, Bob in the bus and Gene in the van with a freezer full of ice cream. They are on the road for nine months out of the year. And then the performers, three performers are hired in three month contracts. So you know, three troops, three performers, you know, nine months out of the year.

J Jewel Gray 34:27

How long have you been doing this?

S Speaker 1 34:28

June.

J Jewel Gray 34:28

Since you and yourself, you've been doing this since June?

S Speaker 1 34:33

Yeah.

J Jewel Gray 34:34

How long have you been performing before Ben and Jerry's? You just walked into Ben and Jerry's one day, want a job they gave you this one, huh?

S Speaker 1 34:44

Well, I'd see performing. Well, I got my first professional job in '79.

J Jewel Gray 34:51

What were you doing?

S Speaker 1 34:53

1979. What was I doing? Oh my God.

J Jewel Gray 34:56

We're going to know you very well when you're here. Okay, as a performer what,

S Speaker 1 35:01

All right, my first, my first professional job, I was a, oh, my God, it all ties together now. I was an ice cream store mime for two days

J Jewel Gray 35:12

Oh, cool. Um, I like that. You ever done that kind of park stuff where you just got to park with a hat?

S Speaker 1 35:19

No. It might come to that, you know, these budget goods and



Jewel Gray 35:26

All that kind of, that kind of fascinates me is that you're on the road, you're, you're a single woman, you're doing this kind of performance, which you're not, you know, like acting or, you know, I'm not, some acting. But it's not like, it doesn't fit the mainstream of performing. And, and I'm kind of fascinated with what background got you here because it's not something you hear a lot of gay people into. I mean, you hear



Speaker 1 35:52

Oh, in terms of circus and stuff. Yeah, that's true. That is true.



Jewel Gray 35:56

So that's what you call yourself, like a circus performer?



Speaker 1 35:59

Yeah, well, actually, when I'm not doing the Ben and Jerry's show, I'm working with the circus in San Francisco. The typical family circus. In fact, we were just here in Houston this past March, when we performed at the at the big arts complex downtown where the



Jewel Gray 36:14

Wortham's?



Speaker 1 36:16

Yeah, that's it. That's, that's it.



Jewel Gray 36:20

It might be the Coliseum, I don't know. No, no. It was one of them.



Speaker 1 36:24

It was in a theater.



Jewel Gray 36:25

It was the Wortham. Well, I just curious because, you know, we I don't know, I didn't mention to you our demographic. sir. We have a lot of young people out there who might be just beginning

you our demographics, but we have a lot of young people out there who might be just beginning to start their careers and ideas about what they want to do with their lives. And I know there are a lot of people out there who might be interested in performance of some sort or another mime, comedy, clowning, and they don't have a lot of people that they can look at and say, you know, well, you know, that's how they make their living. How is it, I mean, how do you feel, being separated from like, a home spot and traveling around the country? And I mean, what would you say to somebody who was thinking about doing that?

S

Speaker 1 37:04

Well, you gotta love it. I mean, you have to have some kind of like, innner insane drive. And the work, the work is good. I mean, first of all, you have to really love it. Because, you know, you get thick months and thin months in terms of money, you know, and so, there are other rewards of doing it besides the money, but just, you know, realistically, if you're thinking about, you know, if you want a real secure job, I would say, don't go into performing really, you know, but in terms of if you want to learn this stuff, there's different ways you can, you can go you can, I know, Big Apple Circus in New York has a circus school. Our circus has a circus school that we've got some world class trainers. Now from, you know, x, x people from the Moscow circus and Chinese trainers from the Nanjing acrobatic troupe in China. That's where I learned all my acrobatic stuff from. And that's in San Francisco, as you know, the San Francisco School of Circus Arts. Makes sense? There's another way you can go is there's Ringling Brothers clown school in Florida. I don't exactly,

J

Jewel Gray 38:22

Circus city. I've been there.

S

Speaker 1 38:24

Yeah, I don't exactly follow their ideas in terms of clowning. But I understand that the training there in terms of skills, if you want to get a taste of everything, is very good. But you know, somebody wanted to be a clown. That would be the last place that I personally would send somebody.

J

Jewel Gray 38:44

And what kind of kid were you in school that got you to here?

S

Speaker 1 38:47

I was ornery.

J

Jewel Gray 38:49

Where do you, were you class clown?

S

Speaker 1 38:50

I was a stinker. Yeah, and in fact, I was voted class clown.

J

Jewel Gray 38:55

So now if those of you out there listening you if you were the class clown, and you kind of liked that kind of stuff, there there are options for you. It's not, it's not, from what I gathered from what you're saying to me, it's not easy, but it's not that difficult either. That if you wanted to do this, if you had a passion for it, you could find a way to do it.

S

Speaker 1 39:13

Yeah, just like anything, if you got a passion for something you, you know, follow through with it.

J

Jewel Gray 39:19

Well, I appreciate you being here. You have some performing okay, I'm just checking. I appreciate you being here and I want to take a second and tell people that you will be at the taste of Houston. I want to keep calling Taste of Texas. Isn't there a taste of Texas too? Okay, the taste, the taste, I'm, I'm getting blank looks in here tonight. The tape, I'm on my own, help me please. If you know, call us. The taste of Houston tomorrow, you're going to do two shows one at 2, and one at four over at the Ben and Jerry's. Come over, buy some ice cream, get some T shirts, watch a good show. Appreciate some people in our community participating in the event. Let them know you're there, scream, yell and whistle, and shout.

S

Speaker 1 40:04

Yeah, loudly, loudly.

J

Jewel Gray 40:06

And how tall are Jennifer and Sarah?

S

Speaker 1 40:09

They're taller than me.

J

Jewel Gray 40:10

And the short one's single. And the short one is single. So hang around like a groupie about the back of the place and try to get autographs, the short one's single. Well, I really appreciate you coming down here. When you're in town again, why don't you give us a call, and we'll talk again, maybe you can talk some of your cohorts into being down here with us.

S Speaker 1 40:29

Absolutely.

J Jewel Gray 40:30

We appreciate it. If I have the time tomorrow, I'm going to try to get by, I want to, I want to see this because it's something, I just think it's, and I hesitate to use the word, I think it's quirky enough.

S Speaker 1 40:42

It's definitely that.

J Jewel Gray 40:43

That it's not something we get to see every day. And I really, I'd really like to see kind of, you know, acrobatic without going to a circus, you know, kind of acrobatic, I'm really curious about the straitjacket. I want to know how to get out of straitjacket. I want to do that, ever since I saw Houdini do it. I want to do it.

S Speaker 1 41:04

You saw Houdini do it?

J Jewel Gray 41:05

I saw Tony Curtis do it. I was gonna qualify and tell you it was actually Tony Curtis doing it. And the only reason I watched that because Janet Leigh was in the movie. But if you get a chance tomorrow, that'd be the place to to catch Diane and her friends at the Ben and Jerry's booth during the show at two and four. And we really appreciate you coming down. And like I said, when you come back into town, just you know, you got my number. Give us a call and we'll, we'll chat again.

S Speaker 1 41:33

All right, thanks.

J Jewel Gray 41:34

What do you got going? Oh, he's got mine. I've begged for this. and begged for this and begged for this and he's gonna do it for me. I have this at home in the original format by a man named Orff, o-f-f. O-r-f-f. O-R-F-F. Why did I say O-f-f? O-R-F-F, who does this whole album. This was just good. But on this one, it's a collection of international techno hits. It's called rad can-- read- - radical, radicals, I can't read. Radical techno and this particular version is by Apotheosis and it's called O'fortuna. And we're going to it.