

uhlib_2022_016_lgv_20010115_edit

Thu, Sep 28, 2023 9:21AM 1:46:00

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

gay, lesbian, years, great, talk, movie, houston, protests, sexual orientation, good, love, people, called, theater, texas, month, write, bill, voices, fact

SPEAKERS

Glenn Holt, Jack Valinski, Cindy Friedman, Joan Devlin



00:01

Houston is 90.1 KPFT, the



00:03

sound of Texas at Pacifica network station KPFT Houston.



J Jack Valinski 00:14

Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Phillips.



J Joan Devlin 00:17

And I'm Jim Devlin.



G Glenn Holt 00:19

And I'm Glen Holt.



J Jack Valinski 00:20

And it's Martin Luther King Day. His holiday, which is a national holiday.



J Joan Devlin 00:27

But we're here on his birthday this

BUT WE'RE HERE ON HIS BIRTHDAY THIS

J Jack Valinski 00:28

year, does it?

J Joan Devlin 00:29

I think I've been told yes. Because usually it's the third Monday in January. That doesn't always fall right on his birthday. But I think this year would actually fall right on his birthday.

J Jack Valinski 00:39

But it's another holiday we're here. Yeah. So

J Joan Devlin 00:41

the holiday we're here. That's right. We call them all of it.

J Jack Valinski 00:43

We don't we don't mind being here at all. Tonight, David Elliot will be on in a little while talking about

J Joan Devlin 00:51

about the Martin Luther King Day holiday as well as about the upcoming inauguration of the president select with the president select. That's right. And in the backfield strap is on to talk to us about what's happening at Landmark and some other theaters around town. And of course, Travis Mater from the alley theatre will be able to talk about Equus and some other things the Ali's going to be doing for our community.

J Jack Valinski 01:12

And we also have a representative from the transgendered community talking about their lobby days, which is a another thing that's going on the Texas legislature is in session. I think it's Wednesday they start

J Joan Devlin 01:22

right. George Bush was in town today, I believe, speaking at a school, and of course, we had the parades Now there were supposed to be some protests taking place. But I hadn't heard any

news about those. So I was wondering if you had heard anything? No,

J Jack Valinski 01:33

I haven't. And I haven't gotten my passes either to cover the inauguration, have you?

J Joan Devlin 01:38

Afraid not? Well, I

J Jack Valinski 01:39

guess maybe we're out this time,

J Joan Devlin 01:41

but I can't I can't afford the \$2,000 for hair Commando. Anyway. So did you read about that where this beauty salon is offering customers for \$2,000 for the day, a beautician will literally follow them around and keep their hair nice and pretty.

J Jack Valinski 01:57

Oh, okay, well, that'd be good for directly. Yeah, that would be the MTV special. I don't really have a lot of information on it. Because I just saw the last part of it. I typed it, but it didn't see the beginning. I was listening to discussion on after hours. And they were not too thrilled with its big ROI. And Chris were talking about saying it was a little bit lame. And then after words, which I originally thought was an incredible thing, the fact that they just ran wording, they didn't run any commercials around wording and voicing over people who were involved in hate crimes. But they were critical saying that was very repetitive. And the fact that they did this late at night, they really lose that much money in advertising. So you know, I guess I'm sort of mixed. I got to see it. Part of

J Joan Devlin 02:43

the thing too, with the Matthew Shepard film, and I don't want to don't want to trash it because I think it was a good thing. It was a good attempt anyway. But the real issue, the reason it happened mainly is because as you know, Eminem, who is a white rapper, who has been heavily heavily promoted by MTV, has been nominated for four Grammys. And his the content of his CD is heavily homophobic, sexist, just all kinds of problems with it. And I think some of of the Matthew Shepard and the other things they did were kind of a way to sort of smooth over the gay community who has been very, as they should be openly critical of MTV support and promotion of Eminem.

J

Jack Valinski 03:28

Yeah, on the other hand, MTV has been very gay positive and a lot of things they did. So it's a tough call. But anyway, we have news wrap from this way out, and let's listen to that.

O

03:46

I'm Jake Schultz. And I'm Cindy Friedman with news wrap a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the weekend in January 13 2001. Oklahoma lesbian Wanda Jean Allen was executed by lethal injection this week for the 1988 shooting death of her partner Gloria Leathers. A flurry of last minute appeals to both Republican governor Frank Keating and the federal courts failed to win a stay. There is no question that Allen shot Leathers. Although her defenders view the killing as an extension of a physical altercation between the couple earlier in the day, the last in a series of violent arguments between them. But the jury, in Alan's case never learned of her low IQ and neurological disabilities, and Alan's exaggeration of her academic achievements at her sentencing hearing were repeated by the prosecution at her clemency hearing. There were also a series of protests by opponents of the death penalty, culminating in a demonstration on the eve of the execution by more than 150 people. The Reverend Jesse Jackson and 27 others were arrested for civil disobedience. Alan had met Leathers while serving time on a manslaughter conviction in the shooting death of her previous partner Detra Pettis. A 1998 study found that more than 1/3 of the women on death row in the US were lesbians, in part because they are viewed as more deviant than other women who kill.

C

Cindy Friedman 05:15

In Canada, Calgary, lesbian Deborah Point was sentenced to life imprisonment with no possibility of parole for at least 20 years. Point was convicted to the second degree murder of her roommate and longtime friend Audrey True Joe. Point said they had established a sexual relationship. But Troodos' family continued to deny this point and her family continued to deny that she committed the acts of murder and dismemberment, but evidence strongly connected Point to the storage of the body parts in a garage where they were only discovered five months later. One expert said there had been no case like it in Canada.

O

05:51

Kazuko Fukuda is asking Japan's Supreme Court to reduce her life sentence for the 1982 slaying of her estranged lesbian partner at Sukkot Yasu Oka. Fukuda was a fugitive for almost 15 years before her arrest in 1997. She was found guilty of murder without premeditation but committed in the course of a robbery and was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Matsuyama District Court in 1999. The sentence was upheld by the Taka Matsu High Court in December.

C

Cindy Friedman 06:24

William Ian Beggs, a gay man with a history of violence towards other gay men was extradited from the Netherlands to Scotland this week to face charges in the December 1999 murder of 18-year-old Barry Wallace. The killing became known as the Limbs in the Loch case because of the

discovery of the first parts of Wallace's dismembered body in Loch Lomond. It took a month to find the rest. Beggs was the subject of one of the largest men Hudson Scottish history, but he had already fled to the Netherlands, where he turned himself into authorities and used every possible appeal against extradition. He is believed to be appealing to the European Court of Human Rights as well, claiming he cannot get a fair hearing in Scotland because of media coverage there. He's expected to face trial there within 12 months.



07:13

Gay London police officers have been the subject of a homophobic hate campaign. Scotland Yard began to investigate the situation after eight officers at the west end central station received threatening letters this week. previous incidents have included vandalism of an officer's car while it was parked in a secure police lot and bottles of gasoline sent to gay officers homes with instructions to set themselves on fire. Internal inquiries by the Metropolitan Police found no evidence that other police officers were responsible.



c Cindy Friedman 07:46

bills to increase sentences for crimes motivated by homophobia are being introduced as US state legislatures open their sessions. A new hate crimes bill has been introduced in Texas, where in 1999, incoming President George W. Bush's candidacy led state senators to kill a similar measure, which was highly controversial primarily for its inclusion of anti gay crimes. Texas current hate crimes laws proven impossible to prosecute successfully and may well be unconstitutional. Sponsors are hopeful that this year's bill will pass both houses and that new Republican Governor Rick Perry will let it become law. North Carolina will see a renewed effort to pass the so called Matthew Shepard Memorial Act, which may add gender expression as well as sexual orientation as victim categories for sentencing enhancements. A bill will also be introduced to reform the state's crimes against nature law. In Mississippi House Bill 162 has also been introduced to add homophobic crimes to the state's hate crimes law. But in Arizona, a bill has been introduced to stop counties, cities and school boards from withholding benefits from the Boy Scouts of America because of bSHS policies excluding gays, atheists and agnostics.



09:05

reformed Jewish congregations in North America have been urged to stop sponsoring Boy Scout troops and Cub Scout packs because of BSA is policy of discrimination against gays. A non binding memo was issued last week by the Joint Commission on Social Action of the Union of American Hebrew congregations, and the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the leading groups of lay people and clergy in the reformed sect. The memo said, If a congregation that sponsors or houses a Boy Scout troop and or Cub Scout pack a share is our conclusion that working from within the Boy Scouts of America is no longer a viable or productive option. It may wish to sever those ties as incompatible with our consistent belief that every individual, regardless of his or her sexual orientation is created in the image of God and is deserving of equal treatment. Parents were also urged you They're to pull their children out of scouting, or to undertake one of a number of protest actions. The memo was being hailed as the strongest action any religious group has yet taken against BSA is discriminatory policy.

c

Cindy Friedman 10:12

Other religious activists last week protested what they called spiritual violence against gays and lesbians by the Vatican. Members of the gay and lesbian Catholic group digged into USA and the interfaith groups so force spent three days demonstrating behind a police barrier dividing the city of Rome from the Vatican. Then they tried to enter St. Peter's Square itself, where no protest action has been allowed for decades. First two demonstrators were removed from the square during the Pope's ceremony closing the Jubilee Year and detained until the ceremony was completed, but later surrounded by police, the rest were allowed to remain there for three hours singing, praying and celebrating communion. Corresponding demonstrations were held at Roman Catholic cathedrals and churches in several US cities.

o

11:01

A Texas church with a mission to spread God's word to the gay and lesbian community has not only given its new minister a job, it's given him back the life he says he lost to amnesia after a beating 16 years ago, when John Simmons last month delivered an audition sermon to garlands White Rock Community Church. He described how he had awakened from a coma in Tennessee in July 1984. Without recollection of his prior life. He described how he had built a new life and gone on to spend the last 10 years at the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, California, earning two master's degrees and working as Dean of Student Life. When the service was over, a member of the White Rock congregation told Simmons that he believed he was actually Barry Cox, a church of Christ minister in San Antonio, who had disappeared in July 1984 And then declared legally dead. The congregant had worked with Cox at a church camp in New Mexico in 1982. The congregant arranged for Simmons to meet first with friends of Cox's parents, and then with Cox's mother and siblings, all of whom agree that Simmons is Cox Cox, his wife, who had dissolved their marriage after his disappearance has not yet met with Simmons, but has identified him as Cox from his photos, handwriting and voice on the telephone. Simmons does not remember the Cox family members, but had some scraps of memories of facts about their home. The White Rock member who recognized Simmons as Cox said, I don't know if I'd necessarily call it a miracle, but it's definitely something God had a hand in.

c

Cindy Friedman 12:41

The president of Indiana's Purdue University announced this week that he will officially add sexual orientation to the school's non discrimination policy. Purdue is the last of the big 10 universities to take the step which campus activists have lobbied for over the last decade. While the school's gays and lesbians celebrated the announcement, University President Martin Jiske downplayed it as a clarification, saying it was an error to believe that a group's omission from the policy meant that discrimination against them would be condoned.

o

13:13

And finally another school, Australia's prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Art has accepted openly gay former professional rugby star Ian Roberts. Only 25 other students were

accepted out of more than 1300 applications to the alma mater of Mel Gibson and Kate Blanchette. But notoriously tough rugby forward said that acting had shown him that I'm not as brave as I thought. Getting up in front of people and exposing your emotions is very, very hard. Roberts decided on an acting career about a year ago and had spent the last six months in intensive study. He also has a big part in the upcoming film Star Wars Episode Two. Roberts mentioned another qualification for his admission to ni da saying I acted straight for 25 years.

c

Cindy Friedman 14:02

That's news rap for the weekend in January 13 2001. Follow the news in your area and forms community is a strong community

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14:11

news rap is written by Cindy Freedman and recorded at the studios of KPFK Los Angeles for this way out. I'm Chase Schultz.

o

14:18

And I'm Cindy Friedman.

j

Jack Valinski 14:20

This is lesbian and gay voices. We have David Elliot on the phone with us. David, how are you?

o

14:27

Well, I'm fine. Thank you very much, Jack. And I'd like to wish you a Happy New Year to you and to Joan and to the listeners of lesbian and gay voices.

j

Jack Valinski 14:35

Well, it's gonna be an interesting year, isn't it?

o

14:38

Well, you know, it kind of feels like winter up here in Washington DC if you know what I mean.

j

Jack Valinski 14:44

You Well, I think it's winter all over the country now.



14:48

You know, it's shocking. It's difficult to conceive but in less than five days. George W. Bush will be standing in front of the west entrance to a entrance at the US Capitol, and he will be officially sworn in as the 43rd. President,



J Jack Valinski 15:05

you know, today listening to the news and what was said about Russia and the fact that it's just uncomprehending evil that they would downplay the importance of Russia and the world. And we just keep any of us here today, which was in Houston today, I guess, visiting some schools. And, you know, I don't know, I just don't know what to say. It's just depressing.



15:32

It's a busy time, you know, John Ashcroft nomination hearing start tomorrow. And then on Thursday, Tommy Thompson, the Wisconsin governor who has been nominated to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, his nomination hearings begin. And then also on Thursday, the nomination hearings of Gail Norton begin. She's the former attorney general of Colorado, who has been nominated to be interior secretary. And so we've got three nominations coming up in the next 72 hours, that we and the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community have every reason to be incredibly concerned about,



J Jack Valinski 16:14

Well, do you think there's any chance that any of these will not be any of these people will not be confirmed,



16:19

it's important to point out that in the history of the United States, only five or six nominations have been defeated. Once they reach the full Senate, that is to say, cabinet, not nominations, there have been more Supreme Court nominees that have been defeated. We have not seen a cabinet nomination defeated since that of John Tower. Way back. I want to say early in the previous Bush administration. So it's really tough. I think the Ashcroft nomination is probably going to go through. But it's going to be a very, very tough fight. And we're going to find out a lot about our country in the process, I can guarantee you that.



J Jack Valinski 17:05

Well, it's certainly going to be busy for you up there, isn't it?



17:00

17:09

Well, really, really busy, a lot happening in a short period of time. But you know, I'd like to make a point here, I'd like to make a really important point here, because a lot of the your listeners who are, you know, really politically sophisticated and follow politics, they might be very depressed right now. Yes. I'd like to point out something in the Chinese alphabet, there is a symbol, a character, that means both crisis and opportunity. We have an unprecedented crisis facing us. We also have a wonderful and joyous opportunity. We can sit back, and we can watch change, rollover us. We can watch change control us. Or we can fight back. And we can control that change. We can organize, we can take so many different actions on the local level. We can become more politically aggressive and more politically intelligent, and we can get ready for the next round of elections in two years.

J Jack Valinski 18:21

Well, you're absolutely right. I mean, we have the legislature in Texas, going back into session in a couple of days. There's so many things going on. We have this year in Houston, we'll have a mayoral election, and it looks like Brown is going to have it looks like we don't know he'll probably have a tough time being reelected. And you're right. There's opportunities there. There's opportunities that people should do their best to get their friends involved, or at least get them out to vote. That's the most important thing. Get them registered, get them out to vote.

18:53

Certainly and you know, there's some good news out of Texas. I'm not sure if your listeners are aware of this. But a congresswoman woman from Texas not feeling Jackson Lee of Houston. But Eddie Bernice Johnson of Dallas, an African American Congresswoman has just been named chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, which is the very best friend that the GLBT community has in Congress. We're going to be working in coalition with the caucus. There's a hate crimes bill that's been filed in by Representative Sinfonia Thompson. In the Texas Legislature. There are two bad bills that have been filed down in Austin that need to be defeated once by Warren Chisholm and would ban same sex marriage in the state of Texas, which of course is already against the law. There's also another bill that we are expecting to be filed by State Representative Robert Tahltan. I believe that would ban adoptions by same sex couples. There's a lot of work work to do down there. And there's no reason for despair. on the national level, look, we are more visible on the federal level than we've ever ever been before. There are rumors in Washington DC tonight, that President designate Bush, when he's sworn in, is not going to repeal the executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal civilian employment. There, there are even rumors that bush on a limited basis might keep the liaison to the GLBT community that was first initiated under President Carter, that position is currently held by Julian Potter. So we're not going to disappear, we're not going to go away, we've made so so many advances over the course of the last eight years, and we're here, we're queer, get used to it. Yes.

J Jack Valinski 20:58

And that all may be true. But I'm sure that Bush would not appoint somebody like Julian, who was a fabulous person. I got to meet her in Atlanta. But you know. you're right. we have to keep

up, we have to keep the spirit, we have to keep organized, we have to work on this. And we



21:15

have to think about who our movement is, you know, the GLBT movement, like any other progressive movement has to have a set of values. Our values must be something above and beyond simply our personal identity. Otherwise, we're just a disconnected group of people who are outside the norms of heterosexuality. I submit to you that the values that we have to embrace in some form or fashion, have to include coalition building, yes, we have to look for bridges that we can build. For people that are a little bit different from us, whether they're different because of their gender, or different because of the race, or ethnicity or their faith belief, something like that, we have to really embrace coalition building over the course of the next two years. And you know,



J Jack Valinski 22:10

we should be able to do that. Because, you know, we all come from different parts of the community at large, a lot of us live not all of us, but a lot of us live in urban areas, and we're around different types of people all the time. And I mean, that should be unnatural for gay and lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.



J Joan Devlin 22:28

Well, I want to throw something in this is John. The other thing I think we need to do as a movement is clean our own house and stop, specifically excluding transgendered people from our movement, because it's very difficult to convince people that we should have a place at the table. When we're excluding other people from the same privilege.



22:46

You did join, if I could address that for a second. Several years ago, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force was lobbied to specifically change its mission statement to include transgender people and bisexual people in our mission statement. We made that change. And, you know, despite what debates might go on within our community, we're going to keep the word transgender in our mission statement, that's not going to go away. We also will not be endorsing the employment non discrimination act, unless it specifically includes transgender employees. Well, and



J Jack Valinski 23:27

glTF should be real proud of that. I mean, as you probably know, Houston has one of the most organized transgendered community in the country. And there's nothing but praise for nglT. From that community, from what I hear,



23:40

Houston is a leader in the transgender movement in the United States. And this movement needs to be to continue. And part of what this movement is about, is despite what pressure is put on us to become more assimilationist, or mainstream or centrist, or whatever word you want to use. We have to keep using the word transgender.



J Jack Valinski 24:03

Yes, yes. So how was your trip to up in the mountains?



24:12

Well, you know, I was able to get away for a little vacation Jack and I was in Summit County, Colorado, it was in the highest County in Colorado, and I learned a little bit about myself in that trip. You know, I wanted to go skiing, I wanted to go cross country skiing. I'd never done that before. I'm 37 years old, you know, I've had high blood blood pressure and, you know, not in the greatest of health and I wasn't sure if I could do it. And I want you to know that I was but I got out there. Every day I skied every day I fell down. One day, I fell down eight times. I'm not very good at going downhill. And every time I fell down, I got back up and I skied a little bit faster, and I was a little bit stronger. than the time before, you know, it's just amazing what the human body can do once you will it



J Jack Valinski 25:05

are scary.



J Joan Devlin 25:07

Take this image of David being gone down the mountain. Hey,



25:12

you can see we played kickball, honey.



J Joan Devlin 25:16

So David, before we close? What's going on? What are some of the things going on in DC for the Martin Luther King holiday?



25:24

Well, a lot of celebrations across the District of Columbia today, a lot of religious celebrations

and also a lot of secular celebrations. The holiday is very important to Washington DC, as you can imagine, you know, a strong majority of the people who live here are African American, and even those of us who might not be African American, are very supportive of Dr. King's legacy. I wouldn't say that, I think that there's a link between the celebrations today, and some of the protests that are that are gonna be going on on Saturday, you know, I've got in front of me a list of 10 or so of the major protests that are going to be going on. And a couple of these are going to be by right wing groups such as the Christian defense coalition. But of the eight progressive protests, I'd say about half of these are organized by the African American community, and a lot of us are going to be turning out to support them. And you're gonna, you're gonna see a bridge, not between the 20th century in the 21st century, but between MLK Day today and exoneration day on Saturday, and it's going to be interesting to see how this plays out.

J Joan Devlin 26:44

Great looking, well, I'm not looking forward to the inauguration, but I am looking forward to seeing the creative ways in which people make their voices heard. And I

J Jack Valinski 26:51

understand that the security is probably going to be the highest it's ever been for an inauguration.

26:56

Well, the security is kind of confusing. They've told us that we're not allowed to bring rotten fruit or vegetable. Actually, nobody that I've talked to has been planning on bringing rotten fruit or vegetables now they're telling us that we are not allowed to bring giant puppets.

J Joan Devlin 27:18

Chuck Okay. What was the giant puppy

J Jack Valinski 27:21

challenging the IQ level? Probably? Yeah, you know,

27:25

it's confusing. You know, when I was skiing in Colorado, there was a saying, I heard that, uh, that does not kill us makes us sore. Well, perhaps somehow politically, that can be you know, that would be appropriate for this coming Saturday.

J

Joan Devlin 27:44

So, David, what are you gonna do with your giant puppet?

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27:47

I'm not confessing to owning a giant.

J

Jack Valinski 27:52

Okay, well, we'll be watching our C span. Well, we'll you'll have to report back to us next month, when all this stuff happens and how things change it in glTF. And sort of dealing with the change in administration? I mean, I guess, you know, I've sometimes been critical of the Clinton administration, but now that you'll sort of look back at it. And as as Nightline has been doing, and I guess, Frontline, I think is going to do it also tomorrow on PBS, the Clinton administration and NPR has been doing it too, of how, you know, incredible it was. And no, we didn't get everything we wanted. But certainly the attack that Clinton was under from the right wing to prevent him from doing anything was absolutely incredible.

♂

28:40

Well, you know, Jack, now I kind of know what the Log Cabin Republicans must have felt like over the course of the last eight years. There's something truly liberating about having an incoming administration, that is so clearly established itself to be the enemy. We are reenergized. We are revitalized at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. And right now, frankly, we're busy. We're working hard, but we're also having a lot of fun.

J

Jack Valinski 29:13

Well, great, thank you, David. David Elliot is communications director at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. And he joins us every month here on lesbian and gay voices and we'll talk to you next month.

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29:23

Well, thank you for having me, Jack and Joan, and, and Happy, Happy New Year to everybody.

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29:29

It's the biggest outdoor event of the year Monday, January 15. It's the 2001 Martin Luther King Jr. Grand Parade in downtown Houston beginning at 2pm. We'll have more than 200 entries, including 25 nationally acclaimed marching bands plus 15 award winning floats this year, Steve

Bruce in the brotherhood of man will emphasize the awareness of common values shared by all the Martin Luther King Jr. Grand Parade don't miss the most celebrated event in Houston called 7139. I'm five 316 33.



30:07

George Wilkerson is a married father and grandfather who works as a technical editor for a major global corporation. He's also transgender activist Bobby Williams. Both George's and Bobby's names appear as authors of the new book, me and Bobby and the girls, a collection of articles and short stories that brings the trans experience to life. This way out, Sean McLaughlin spoke with Bobby, to find out why and how the book came to be.



30:35

Tell me about your book? Well, it's



30:37

a collection of things I've written over the past three years actually, there's two types of things, if you will, ones, articles, columns that I wrote for transgender form, which is an online magazine, it's a largest online magazine for the transgender community. And the second portion of it contains short stories with transgender scenes. And these are all collected around that title. The first month of things, those articles are conversations between my male self and my female self. As we usually as we prepare to go out for the evening, or talking to friends that we have in the community. Most of this was written when I lived in Austin, Texas.



31:23

And now that you're up here in the capital region of New York, how are things different? How has the community responded to your book are things the same or different?



31:33

The response generally has been pretty good because it's, you know, published nationally, it's not just local. So I in fact, just got a call from a friend in Dallas, who bought it and said she really liked it. But it's, it's cold, it's colder here than it is in Austin, Texas are saying that I had to buy a whole second wardrobe. I told my friends who come up to New York from Texas. And if you're a crossdresser, you don't have to just buy one new wardrobe, you have to buy two nuts.



32:03

That's absolutely true. And tell me about the audience. For me and Bobby and the girls, you say that this is a collection of pieces regarding the transgendered experience, but it's not necessarily for the transgendered community. What do you mean by that?



32:16

I mean by that, that most people who are transgendered have been there, they read the stories, and a lot of I've had a lot of email from people who tell me that they can relate to this or that story, that something happened to them. That was similar. But my main objective is to try to reach the broader audience of people who maybe never even met a transgendered person, or if they did, just thought it was some kind of joke, or just, we're ignorant of the fact that we're people like everybody else, and that we lead lives that are very similar for the most part. And the fact is that there are many, many people who are transgendered out there in the world. As I told friends of mine, that I came out to, um, just the tip of the iceberg, people like me who go out in public, for every one of us, there's 100 200, more who never go outside their homes who never even revealed themselves to family or friends or anybody else. And, and I guess it's, I won't say TS Eliot, who said they lead lives of quiet desperation.



33:23

What are some of the other issues that the book addresses?



33:26

Well, a lot of the a lot of it has to do with issues about being transgendered. And these days that's cuts across a broad spectrum. One of the pieces, talks about sexuality, which people confuse with gender. Many transgendered people are straight, quote, unquote, many are bisexual. And of course, many are gay, but the one does not equate to the other. So that you can't assume that because any more than you can assume that if a man is gay, that he likes to wear dresses, you can't assume that if a man likes to wear dresses, he's gay. And that's one of the things that I think people need to understand and recognize. The, there are other issues too, involving just having to live day to day with the whole matter of not falling into the rigid kind of categories that people want to classify others as and one of those is gender, you have to be either male or female. You can't be somewhere in between the two because people just have a hard time dealing with that.



34:35

Now that me and Bobby and the girls has been published. What are you working on now? Are you working on another piece of writing?



34:41

i Yes. Matter of fact, I've got a a novel I'm doing which is titled transfixed, and it's basically a detective story. And my detective is investigating the murder of a transgender person much like the one of those I described in one of my shorts Stories who was out as far as going out to meet other transgender people, but this individuals, co workers and friends weren't aware of the fact that he was transgender. The only person that knew was his wife. And she didn't tell

the police that when they investigated his killing, he was murdered. And she had promised him that she would never reveal this about him. So she gets a friend who's a detective, to investigate. And he of course winds up going into the transgender community to find out about it, and he learns a lot.



35:35

Bobby, congratulations on being published and we wish you the best in the future. Thank you. How can people get in touch with you if they'd like to learn more? Well,



35:43

you can send all your hate mail to Bobby Williams. That's B. Opp. I Williams at t g forum.com. And how are we fine?



35:57

Okay, Bobby Williams. Thank you for joining us. Me and Bobby and the girls is published by ex libris publishing in Troy, New York. I'm Sean McLaughlin for this way out.



J Joan Devlin 36:13

Good evening you're listening to KPFT is lesbian and gay voices and Amy Beth Gilstrap is here to talk about movies at Landmark and also around town. But I wanted to start off with House of mirth because that was one of my favorite Edith Wharton books. And they've just made the film and it's been getting alkaloids. I've heard many good things about it.



36:30

Oh, tremendous. Gillian Anderson, who plays Lily Bart? Is there already talking about Oscar nominations for and things like that, which I, I really didn't expect so much. I'm, I'm a pessimist. I don't know. Like, well, Gillian Anderson shall look pretty. What she does. I'm really just amazed though, at how well it comes off for being so difficult for people to get into the mindset of a story from that period, when there was a turn of the last century, right? Right. So it's set in 1906. And you don't get a whole lot of dialogue that's going to explain anything that's going on, you just have to understand that all of these people are set in their social classes and have to behave a certain way. But they still have all the emotions of that we do that we talk about, and they can't. So that's it's very touching, it makes it more of a tragic love story. Because they can't sit around and go, Oh, miserable because of this.



J Joan Devlin 37:36

Yeah, I just read a book called affinity, which was about a prison in 18, excuse me in 19th century London. And during the whole book, I mean, I found myself doing that, because I would

just get so angry, you know, at these women for just kind of accepting their fate, right. And, you know, the the woman that wanted to leave home, and it was like, why couldn't leave home because I wasn't married, and my mother wouldn't let me and I'm thinking, you know, you're 30 years old go. Yeah, you know, but then you realize no, because in 1873, or whatever, you could not do that,



38:10

right? I think reading, reading, things like that. And even seeing movies like this. I was very frustrated with her for all the things that happen to her. And she never defends herself. She never the buggy, like that screen. And, but at the same time, so you start to feel like, well, it's great that I live now when I can do these things. But it makes you think, how many times haven't I? How many times have I broken out and said this is how I want to live and this is who I am and just shut up.



J Joan Devlin 38:40

It kind of makes you wonder what people be saying about the way we live 100 years from now. Exactly. You know, we think we're going right along and doing so well. And 100 years from now, people might be looking at us and going God I don't know how these people live like that. So what else is going on?



38:56

Let's see. ungentle 26 We have shared with the vampire opening. I want to see that too. Yeah, it's it's, it looks really It looks visually very stunning. Must be very gothic, right? Most and it's very, it's very Art Deco. Like you know, just just the feel of it and the styling but what most people have said to me is those people who are familiar with Nosferatu as a movie find shadow vampire to be incredible. And those who aren't don't quite get it to quite get the the irony of it and the style and and what they were trying to do. So So to test everyone go rent and as far as



J Joan Devlin 39:40

I've seen it several times because it's very short to Yeah, well it was a silent movies. They weren't very long. Not many of



J Jack Valinski 39:47

them. Well, I do have to talk a little bit about traffic, which I just saw this past weekend and I think it's one of the best movies. Just absolutely incredible. It's a story about drugs. Contemporary and there's like about Three or four Wolverine stories within it, and it's just so well, and they all sort of interconnect. It's a long movie. It's I really suggest seeing the movie at night because when you get finished with it, you're just like, wow, this is so incredible.

J

Joan Devlin 40:12

How long is it? Three hour? No?

J

Jack Valinski 40:14

Well, but two a little bit over two and a half hours. I think it is. Very well done just incredible in lots of stars. But usually, when you hear there's lots of stars in the movie, I usually take it back because usually it means they're just putting all these people in there but no, all the all the players were just very interwoven and very good and incredibly well written and cast movie and, and filmed in different locations. Just incredible.

J

Joan Devlin 40:40

And Jackie said, use her state and mean,

J

Jack Valinski 40:42

yes, that was a lot of fun. And of course, that's playing a greenway. It was a fun movie. Very nice day it was but movie about making a movie in a small town. And I just love the dialogue. The dialogue was great. I mean, they're always saying things and you know, sort of justifying it for their, you know, this is how movies made. And then, you know, there's sort of, you know, there's two things going on, there's making the movie in a small town and how they intertwine.

o

41:09

Right. That's one of the things about David Mamet who hasn't really made very funny things so far. But definitely very thought provoking and very dialogue driven and dealing a lot with irony, and with the nature of reality is with people, it's nice to see it come off. So quick and funny and madcap, at the same time, it really sucks when so those people who like David Mamet are definitely enjoying it. And those people who haven't so far are finding that there's a new aspect to them as well, is just, where am I going with this? You know, like I said, that people are finding a new aspect to David Mamet and realizing that, that and are pleased with with it being funny, but also maybe seeing more to what he's done before.

J

Jack Valinski 41:58

Well, exactly as you know, traffic and then state mean, I was we were talking earlier about the art form of movies, the fact that movies can be so different, and I mean, yes, there's the commercial mass appeal movies. And they're out there and, and all they're good for entertainment and stuff like that. But you also have this whole art form about telling stories that probably couldn't be told in any other medium. Well, you know, there's, of course, there's books, but being able to be told in a, in a sort of a mass way, but still, the fact that you can just, you know, see these things, and they can attack the subjects that are, you know, incredibly non commercial, right, the



42:39

fact that movies are so overwhelming, because you have not only the aspect that the literature aspect of writing them, and, and then a visual aspect, and then someone is acting, it's taking every art form and sticking it together, including a musical score. And it's the ultimate escape from reality to sit and see, it's so big in front of you, and be able to, and be overwhelmed and be touched by somebody's religion,



J Jack Valinski 43:09

and still seeing it on a big screen. I mean, you know, right, it's, we've been able to, you know, get a movie at home, and DVDs are great, and all that type of stuff that you the stuff you can't, you know, you can't always go to, but being there in a theater, with that big screen and just, you know, being overwhelmed by it.



J Joan Devlin 43:25

And especially when you're in a theater, with an audience who's just as overwhelmed as you are, I mean, all of a sudden, you become like this team or something,



43:32

right? It's, it's so much better to see it with other people, you're total strangers, but you're, you're experiencing something at the same time, there's a definite feel if there's, if the audience is receptive. It is, it's a shame to be in a theater with not seeing a great movie with an audience. It's like, not paying any attention. Yeah, well, it can. It can definitely,



J Jack Valinski 43:53

I guess we're spoiled, you know, between the landmark theatres and you know, Janica, usually, it's an adult audience. And usually, you can watch it without a lot of interruptions, although, you know, I've been to, you know, the commercial theaters too. And some, in many times, they're okay, too. There's just that occasion where, where it's not that good. And, you know, we're not doing our worst of lists that, like Roger Ebert usually does. But, you know, of course, we're always talking about the movies we like or love to see. I understand that boy's life is going to be coming out sometime probably next month. We'll talk about that. We know more about that. It should



44:29

open on the 23rd of February. Okay. So

J Joan Devlin 44:33

you're going to insist on seeing it. Aren't you doing?

J Jack Valinski 44:35

Oh, yes. Absolutely. And I'm sorry, the other movie I was taught I meant to talk, but we were hoping to find something out but we don't know when it's coming to us. So for nightfalls before nightfalls. Yeah, they did a bit on it this morning on Morning Edition. It's a story about a Cuban artist who happens to be gay and living in the Castro regime and then gets to New York. And it was just really interesting. How they were talking about it and then there's also a movie about a Pollard. Oh, Jackson Pollock, Jackson Pollock. Yes. That's going to be coming out soon too. And that's supposed to be very good.

45:11

My that's also getting really great reviews. And it's that should be a good dichotomy too. Yeah, to see this to the director, who I can't remember now, before, Nightfall is the same guy that did Boska Oh, yes. The second film. It's, it's weird to see right now. Seems like, I don't know why I feel this way. But it seems like there are so many more biographies coming out, that are done. That are done more artistically and done by, by artists. Yeah. Yeah. Who are exploring their emotions more so than that lifework and exploring their stories more so than their persona, publicly? And that's, that's very encouraging. Yes, absolutely. It's nice to see that people's lives can be an art form, and not just something made up.

J Jack Valinski 46:06

Yeah. Especially now, as we were talking earlier about everything being so commercial, right? These days. I mean, every stadium is named after some company. And in Boston, they're even talking about naming the T stations after some corporation to make some money. God next thing, they'll be naming the schools,

J Joan Devlin 46:23

naming the radio station.

J Jack Valinski 46:27

Most radio stations are commercial stations,

J Joan Devlin 46:30

not us. Well, I want to thank you for being on the program this evening, Amy, and we appreciate you coming out to talk to us about all the movies that are coming up that I'm now searching back in my head for the hours that I'm gonna need to see. Because they sound like

there's a lot of really good things coming out.



46:47

It's there. It's kind of a slow booking right now for what we're doing. But at the same time, Oscars are coming up. So a lot of people are rushing out and seeing, you know, the things that they feel like they've missed, and Miss Stickles is still playing, Crouching Tiger is still playing. So the one thing that won't be playing next week at our theaters is A Hard Day's Night. So that has moved to the rocks and everyone has to rush out and see that one before it goes away. And it's got an overwhelming response. Just people very, very happy. It was it was almost like a Christmas present for people. Great. But it's always pleasure. Thank you guys very much.



J Jack Valinski 47:25

Thank you more than welcome. You're listening lesbian, gay voices.



47:29

Get rid of those rabbit ears wrapped in tin foil and crank up the computer Houston's 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas is now streaming on the internet. Check out our updated website@www.tft T dot o RG on it you can check out community events, send messages to the staff and listen to us online. Now you can listen to KPFT at the office, at home or anywhere you travel. Plus check out our photo gallery visit our concert calendar keep up with community events linked to other Pacifica sites, and even become a listener sponsor of KPFT by joining online, it's the newly updated website@www.kp FT dot o RG from Houston's 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas



48:12

that's exactly the question posed by a new film debuting on the lifetime us cable channel on January 22. Starring Brooke Shields, Cherry Jones and and Mira. What makes a family is based on the moving true story of a landmark Florida custody case. This way out Steve pride caught up with one of the film's executive producers to find out more about it.



48:35

Greg Zaidan and Neil mariners storyline entertainment have single handedly reinvented the American musical for television. Combine these guys with CO executive producer Barbra Streisand toss in a cast that includes Oscar winning Whoopi Goldberg, Brooke Shields, and Mara and Tony Award winning out lesbian, Cherry Jones. And you know, now think you have a blockbuster on NBC, CBS or ABC. But no, we're talking about an original film premiering on the lifetime cable network. It's called What makes a family.



49:10

Hi, my name is Neil Marin and I'm one of the executive producers of what makes a family the plot of what makes a family is based on a true story that took place in Florida and it was a landmark court case. And the movie is about Janine and her relationship with Sandy. Janine is basically a very, very shy and unacknowledged lesbian who has not very very comfortable in her skin. And Sandy, who becomes her girlfriend is very much comfortable in her skin and falls in love with Janine basically at first sight and helps her acknowledge who she is. And at that point, she suggests that they start a family



49:58

journey. Let's have a baby You know, why not? Uh, you love kids probably more than I do. And how can you eat that garbage, like, you cook, you just have a blog about cooking any idiot can make a pasta sauce.



50:13

It's a good word. You hold a baby for a minute and now you want one.



50:17

I you know me better than that, than thinking about it for a while. We would be such great parents named



50:25

Sandy, please get a cat. Get a dog, a bird. A nice pet will satisfy whatever this urge



50:32

is you've got I trained dogs all day for a living, I can assure you, I do not want a pet. I want a child. Our child.



50:40

Sandy gets artificially inseminated. She gives birth to a beautiful girl. They raise the girl together very lovingly. And these are two fantastic partners in a wonderful family that you would want to be a part of that anybody would want to be a part of, until Sandy develops lupus, which is a very life threatening disease. And unfortunately, she has it really bad. Janine does everything she can to support Sandy and her illness and to keep the family going. She gets together with Sandy's family. And eventually, the worst thing does happen and Sandy passes away. And Janine thinks that she's going to be able to just continue to live raising her daughter, Heather. Much to her surprise, Sandy's once loving family turns against her and takes Heather away. She is not



51:33

your daughter. She is Sandy's daughter, and she's all we have. I am not keeping her from you. You're Not You don't even return our call. Anyone's calls.



51:45

I'm trying to adjust. We're just trying to get through.



51:49

We who? Who else you got over there in that house? We do not want her around your friends. We do not want her around those kinds of people. What kind of people dice, Claire's spine. Tom? Can I make that any clearer for you?



52:04

Your daughter was those kinds of people. Yeah, thanks



52:07

to you.



52:09

She told you what she was in high school



52:10

in high school. She was she was confused. She didn't know what you wanted. You messed up her life. And I do not want you messing up Heather's life.



52:18

We were attracted to the story. Because when you go through all these stories about lesbian and gay adoptions, they usually end sadly. And here in the state of Florida, where you would think that it would be impossible. Florida is the only state in the country which bans gays and lesbians from adopting. Janine does win custody of her daughter. So it's a story that gives hope. And it's an extraordinary cast of women, Brooke Shields, Cherry Jones and Mira and will be Goldberg. I mean, you couldn't ask for more diverse talented group of women than then what we've assembled in this film. Cherry Jones has never played a lesbian role before. And when we approached her, she read the script and jumped on board immediately. She was our first choice

to play that part. She is a goddess in terms of the theater. She's a goddess in terms of acting, and as good of an actress as she is. She's that good of a person as well. Brooke Shields came to the project. Actually, we were trying to decide on who should be in this movie. And we didn't even think about Brooke until I read her cover story interview in the advocate. And when I read that, I was actually struck at how much depth she has as a human being and how much feeling she had for the gay and lesbian community and I thought if she has this much depth and understanding of the gay experience, she would be able to bring this with her as an actress to play this part.



53:51

Neil Marin with producing partner Craig Zaidan run storyline entertainment, the company behind the recent TV versions of Annie gypsy and Rodgers and Hammerstein Cinderella. They also produced the NBC movie serving in silence the Margaret Kemo Meyer story.



54:08

We've been producing together for least 10 years and we've been doing the type of projects that you can sleep well at night knowing that we were able to do what our dreams have been, such as bringing musicals back to TV, doing issue oriented projects about gays and lesbians, as well as biopics of some of the people that we've admired such as the Beach Boys, the Three Stooges app into our current work, which is a miniseries about Judy Garland, which will air at the end of February, starring another acting goddess Judy Davis.



54:45

That project will air on ABC. So what about the Lifetime Television Network



54:50

lifetime is a very, very interesting company because they're not afraid to tackle issues. As a matter of fact, they welcome issues One of our next movies for lifetime is going to be about Dana rivers, who is a transsexual, and they welcome the challenge of doing issues. Their audience wants to see this, it brings them, I think a great deal of satisfaction to know that they may be able to affect change.



55:19

What makes a family premieres Monday, January 22, at 9pm, Eastern and Pacific times on the Lifetime Television Network. This has been a conversation with one of the film's executive producers, Neal Maron, I'm Steve pride. Thanks for listening. She used to be.



Glenn Holt 55:49

At 90.1 FM This is KPFT in Houston, the sound of Texas and now more of lesbian and gay voices.

J Joan Devlin 56:16

Good evening, as the bridge said, we're listening to lesbian and gay voices. I have Travis mater in the theater. Okay, talk, I can't talk. You see you guys are talking about coffee I need some have Travis mater in the studio to talk about Equus, which is coming up to be at alley theatre or actually has started already.

56:34

Actually, we've started our previews on Friday. And tomorrow night, we have one more preview and Winston is our big opening. So we're really excited about mounting this play, which really hasn't had a major revival since it was on Broadway in 1974 1975. It's kind of a it's kind of a rarity. Actually, this year, only a few days ago, Peter shafa, who wrote the play was knighted. And this play in 2000 was considered by Lara theatre, it's one of the 10 Best of the century. So it's really odd that a lot of people haven't done it. But it's a really, it's a really difficult play. And if any of those of you out there that know it, know that six of the characters in the play are horses, but they're actually people who portray horses. So it's sort of got that 70s performance art feel to it. But it's really a compelling story.

J Joan Devlin 57:22

Right and didn't Richard Burton do it on stage?

57:26

Yeah, it's interesting. Um, Anthony Hopkins actually originated the role in London. And he also moved to Broadway. Will Richard Burton was in was in talks to do the film, and you can read the film that I don't should I say a name of a place where he can read the film, I just say can rent you can rent the film at a local place. And it stars Richard Burton as the main character Martin Martin dice art. And part of what the producers wanted Richard Burton to do was to perform the role for a couple of weeks on Broadway before he stepped into the film. So Richard Burton was in fact on Broadway for a little while, sort of getting into the swing of the character before they filmed it.

J Joan Devlin 58:03

So had the rehearsals been going and how did the first preview go?

58:07

Well, so far so good. The rehearsals were, were a lot of fun. You can imagine six big strapping

guys wearing these eight inch platform shoes with giant horseheads stomping around the stage. We I think we've replaced the floor. But it's been really great. We were lucky to have with us, the original horse choreographer named Peter Liddell, he worked in the Broadway production, and was actually in the production. Horse choreographer. I know it's funny. We've actually done a lot of horse research, we spent a lot of time at the Hermann Park stables, learning how to ride and learning how to groom the horses. A lot of the stuff is in the place. We're really trying to, to learn about how horses move. And that's one of one of the things that pivotal adult does. He's worked on 10 productions of this. Wow. So he's quite the horse master.

J

Joan Devlin 58:59

Ooh, well, now now our audience said, Sorry, you're talking about? Yeah. And what I also want to talk about the alley theatre is going to be doing follies, which is a fundraiser.

♂

59:10

Yes. Last summer, Paul, who's a member of our resident company, and a group of local musical theater actors and venerable actors from years past and years present. all got together and did a couple of performances of Stephen Sondheim's follies at ovations and, you know, representatives from the alley came and liked it so much. We thought let's, let's do it. Let's do benefit. So on the 29th of January 8pm, we're going to be presenting that same program on the large stage and that will be benefiting the Center for AIDS, hope and remembrance project. And again, that will start all sorts of people that you've seen on stage in Houston and elsewhere. It's really it's really a big deal because no one ever does this work. It's what it for people who liked musical Stephen Sondheim. It's like the best right? Yeah, well, no one ever does. Let's play it because it's so complicated, but we're doing sort of a staged reading concert types. You know, you'd like you see Les Miserables on PBS. That type of thing. So should be really exciting.

J

Joan Devlin 1:00:09

So you guys are just, you know, you're you're determined to challenge yourselves. You know, you're doing Equus, which is a difficult play to put on. And you're doing Foley, which is a difficult musical to put on.

♂

1:00:19

Yeah, I mean, I think part of what you want to do is always tries to be new, you don't always want to, to give everyone the lowest common denominator, you want to try something that will stimulate audiences and bring back classics and that type of thing.

J

Joan Devlin 1:00:34

Speaking of bringing back classics, I noticed that James Hall is going to be showing Fiddler on the Roof starting January 23, which is a big favorite. In fact, there's a guy I work with that likes to sing the songs from the show. So that I know that's been around, but I



1:00:49

see that this guy that's playing Tavia has played the role of Tobia more than 1300 times.



J Joan Devlin 1:00:55

Wow. Well, he's definitely got his lines memorized by now, I think. And then mainstream theaters doing something called the Countess, which is the truth based on the true story of a scandalous love affair. So that that sounds pretty good. That sounds good. That's Main Street Theater again, starting the 25th. Seems like a lot of things are starting up here. This week. Yeah, spring



1:01:14

season, everyone sort of done their Christmas thing and sort of taking off for the new year. I think.



J Joan Devlin 1:01:20

So what have you got coming up after Equus? Well,



1:01:23

after Equus. We have a new play. By play right. KEITH readin? People may remember Keith Cardenas, an actor at the alley. He was in the 1997 production 9719 99 production of misalignments by George Bernard Shaw. And he was also in a production of an Allen acorn comedy we did a couple years before that. But he's also playwright has spent a lot of time at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago, where he's resident playwright, and he's a film writer too. There's a film of his that he wrote the screenplay for out now again, you can rent that at the same place you can rent Equus is called, it's the rage. It's sort of about guns. And it's got a great cast with like, Joan Allen and Giovanni Ribisi. He's really sort of a really, he's an actor slash writer, slash Hollywood guy. He's been in movies, he was in to Wong foo for a few minutes. So you know, he's kind of it's kind of a great way for us to a work with new plays at the alley, which is something we haven't done a lot of in the past and be worked with really quality playwrights.



J Joan Devlin 1:02:25

Well, it's great, what sounds like you have like between acquisition and everything else. It sounds like you have got a very busy year plan for for pizza. And



1:02:32

that's just the beginning.

J

Joan Devlin 1:02:33

Oh, so tell us more. Well, after

Ω

1:02:35

that we have sort of your quintessential French sex farce, which everyone loves. It's called a flea in her ear. And you know, it's a type of thing. Some of you may have seen it back in 1991. And I need to, and we're sort of remapped to get slot exactly a remote. We're redesigning the whole thing, starting basically from scratch, but trying to use as many of our company members as possible, because it was such a popular show. We wanted to bring it back. And it's really a lot of fun and kind of naughty, which is fun.

J

Joan Devlin 1:03:03

Oh, that's great. Well, who chooses? You know, just out of curiosity? I mean, how do you decide what place to put on during you know, your upcoming seasons?

Ω

1:03:11

It I mean, it's really up to the artistic director. And but sort of the type of thing where, you know, you look at what's happening in New York, you look at what's happening locally, you look at what plays haven't been done a lot recently, and you look at your subscribers, and do you want to do how many classics Do you want to do? How many new plays you want to do? It's really complicated equation that I don't even think Einstein could have come up with, and we changed it all the time. So it's just sort of a lot of it's serendipity. But a lot of it is really trying to take the pulse of what the American Theatre is.

J

Joan Devlin 1:03:43

And I guess in Houston, too, because there are so many other theaters. You know, it's a little bit competitive.

Ω

1:03:48

Sure, sure. Every time there's a new play that does well, there's sort of a certain amount of competition who gets who wants to do which one first, and that type of thing, but I think it's pretty friendly competition.

J

Joan Devlin 1:04:01

Yeah, well, you know, there's no law that says, you can't see what's playing in every theater. I mean, exactly. You know, the alley and some of these others have really good shows, like stages has old wicked songs coming up, or even John's Hall having Fiddler on the Roof. I mean, if you can see acquisition, Fiddler on the Roof, that shouldn't be a problem right



1:04:18

now. And that's what makes it so fresh. I mean, everywhere you go, Houston is becoming such a huge theater town. There are always options. And you can see a slice of life a slice of the world theater. any night of the week, really, except Mondays usually.



J Joan Devlin 1:04:33

Yeah. Now, what kind of crowds have you been drawing so far? No. When I went and saw the Christmas Christmas carol last month, I was very happy to see just huge crowds of people. And I mean, we went on a Tuesday night. And I mean, it was packed. It was fully packed. From what



1:04:48

I understand. We've broken all box office records for Christmas carol that we've ever set. So I think the number is something like 20,000 people saw the production which is a lot got a lot of people. And that, you know, that's our pretty much our popular show of the year Equis so far has been doing really well. We all want added thing about equitas, if you want, for a reduced price you can sit on the stage, part of the way that the play is designed is that it's also sort of like an operating theatre, where people would sit and stalls behind the doctor performing the operation, in this case, the psychiatrist analyzing a patient so you can actually sit up on the stage and watch the action sort of be part of what's going on. Wow. Yeah, I just sat there the other night, and it's really an interesting experience. You're up, you're closer. You feel like you're part of the show. People really can't see you, but you feel really vulnerable. And it's kind of cool. Kind of cool. I don't know. They're gonna be kind of scary. Yeah, that too. But you know, what's a little what's a little fear on the theater?



J Joan Devlin 1:05:52

Right? Are you having any problems? That was any of these people that are sitting near the stage, like, suddenly deciding this is their moment to make their debut or anything?



1:06:01

Not yet? Not yet. But um, we have some extra horse costumes in case that happens



J Joan Devlin 1:06:07

to this image of people lining up wanting to worry. What do you say the eight inch hooves and

unit starts and you start? Oh, I think I'd pass on that. Hey, Glen, how about you? You think you could go for an eight some eight inches and unit yards?

G

Glenn Holt 1:06:21

Even though I'm a Sagittarius? No.

J

Joan Devlin 1:06:24

I'm a Sagittarius too. And I know that I wouldn't do it. Well, I want to thank you so much for being on tonight to talk to us about Equus Equus, I can talk. Thank you. And also some of the Fleenor year and so many other things you have coming up for bringing us news and about other theaters. And also, of course, follies, which is going to be a fantastic fundraiser. Hopefully that one will get sold out since that is a fundraiser and hopefully,

♀

1:06:47

I mean, it's a great group of people. I don't see anyone could could not spend the night of January 29 at the alley, supporting a great cause.

J

Joan Devlin 1:06:58

That's a show tonight. Is that a Monday? Yes, that is

♀

1:07:00

that's yes, it's a Monday, but it's a special Monday, which means that everyone should be there and support the Center for AES,

J

Joan Devlin 1:07:08

Jad Glenn and I will try to explain that. Or actually,

♀

1:07:11

we could maybe bring gay lesbian voices there and set up in the back of the house. I'll just turn on the mics.

J

Joan Devlin 1:07:17

Yeah, that'll work. I want to thank you again, we've been talking to Travis Mayer from the alley theatre, and you're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



Glenn Holt 1:07:31

You are listening to lesbian and gay voices. That was the Presto from Sonata for violin and piano by Robert Avalon, who is going to be appearing at Borders Bookstore on Wednesday to sign copies of his new orchestral CD. And Robert joins us in the studio this evening with his lover. And the reason why you're here is because this is incredible. You're a composer, in the gay community. You're in Houston. Houston doesn't have that many composers to go around. And you're here and you have two CDs out produced right here in Houston. Well, it's great



1:08:07

to be here. Yeah. Most of the composers I think that are being played in Houston today are dead composers. Yes. So I'm alive here to talk about it. And we are giving a concert on Wednesday as well as the signing will actually play a performance. Very excited about it. Have some of the people who are on the recordings, my two CDs, who some of the artists from this will be performing with me.



Glenn Holt 1:08:33

And if you haven't been to the New Borders Bookstore, right place, it really is. It's



1:08:38

a very good place to do this sort of thing. Oh, yeah. Big expansive, it has good sound we're, we're moving in an eight foot piano. From the piano store. It's a really neat, neat piano and beautiful piano. So it's gonna go up those that huge flight of stairs and go upstairs where we're gonna have the the event. Wow, it's gonna be upstairs. Yeah, it'll be upstairs. There'll be a talk beforehand. And, and about about 15 to 20 minute talk, we're going to talk with the audience take questions from the audience, me and the other musicians and talking about creativity. And I'll talk about some of the things I like to do like improvise. And what I'm doing as a composer and anything they want to ask me I'll talk about,



Glenn Holt 1:09:24

okay, what are you doing as a composer?



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Well, I'm writing right now a lot of music for an ensemble in Amsterdam. I have an ensemble in Amsterdam that's called the Avalon ensemble appropriately. And it's a string quartet flute soprano and piano on the pianos for the group and the other players are all Dutch. So I go back to Amsterdam four times a year which isn't a bad thing to do. Amsterdam such a

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Glenn Holt 1:09:50

I hate that for you. That's got to be so horrible.

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Such a great city you know, so open so free and and loving it out. They're and, and so I go there and Paris and Berlin, that kind of as a kind of wine on a regular basis, we're planning a tour, we're gonna do 35 concerts of live music and 15 cities in eight weeks, and during an eight week period, and so I'm really excited about it, because it'll give audiences in some cities a chance to hear three full programs or actually five full hours of my chamber music. And I'll be playing with the group and the string quartet for the group is just dynamite. When I was in Amsterdam in November, they were playing the complete Bartok string quartets at the concert Gabel, and they're getting really great reviews and have a great rapport with the audience. They've been playing together for 20 years, and they have over 500 contemporary string quartets in the repertoire. Wow. So the real champions of living composers works they're really not just stuck in the in the mold of the past.

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Glenn Holt 1:11:00

Alright. And the people who are performing with you here locally are also a renowned caliber. Oh, yeah,

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it's real, real interesting group. Megan Eisenbach is from Austin. She studied with jumper on Paul and James Galway and had some got some very good New York Times reviews for her Carnegie Hall debut a few years back and she's been a great collaborator. She's commissioned a lot of pieces from me and, and I love to write for, because she's real sympathetic to my music and, and, and she's great player. She's also about six foot two, and kind of looks like Brooke Shields. She's a gorgeous lady. And she's and then the we're doing a violinist local violinist named Eden, McAdams, summer, a lot of people know as playing jazz. She's an improviser. She plays a lot of Celtic music in town, and I kind of grew up. She grew up with my coaching. She was like a student of mine in chamber ensembles. And now she's a full colleague, and it's really exciting to play with her. She's, she's Paul Englishes. Girlfriend, the jazz pianist. Okay. And let's see who else is on that program. A surprise guest I met an artist on a singer on Friday at a party. And she sang sight or sight read a whole group of my art songs and an ARIA for my opera, which is very, very difficult to sight read it. And I was just bowled over. And so I I called her the next day I called her on Saturday. I said, Hey, Mario, she's really interesting. She's very exotic, half, half Arabian and half Mexican. She grew up in Juarez. She just moved to Houston here recently so that some people had a party or trying to introduce her. And so she came over today and this evening and rehearsed and I had her thing for a group of my friends this evening. And they they just loved her. She radiates confidence and spunk. She's fun. And she's so she's going to be performing. Yes. Well, she'll play with me too. We're gonna do one of the arias from my opera Carlotta about a mad the last Empress of Mexico who went mad for 60 years. Oh, okay. You know about Maximilian and Carlota. No, Maximilian was a Habsburg from

Vienna and his wife, Carlotta was Belgian and they, they were sent over by Napoleon the Third to set up a, an empire European empire in Mexico 1960s During the American Civil War, and, and she she left to try to get the Pope to give him a more support because he had told him he would help them a lot if they, you know, they really helped promote Catholicism and made lots of babies and Mexico and, and they didn't do that she didn't have a baby herself. Even we don't know why. I mean, maybe Maximilian was gay, and maybe Carlotta was lesbian or, you know, that couldn't adopt the right child or something. So she had this fantasy that she would have a child. So in my opera, she has the child of Kitzur quadrille the green Plumed Serpent, wouldn't it be fun to make love to bring green Plumed Serpent? Anyway, so she won't go there. And we're gonna do an aria from that her final ARIA where she, she sings about being like a burning log, she feels that she's being consumed by fire, and even though her vegetal humor is perishing, she feels life taking on coming on, as she's preparing for her death.

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Glenn Holt 1:14:32

In the liner notes for this new CD, the that you have that you're promoting at borders, it's an orchestral city. One of the questions was about the kind of music that you compose, and the question was to the effect of is the music accessible?

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Oh, yeah. And I think I answered I sure hope so. I mean, you know, who wants to write music that nobody wants to listen to? Or that the audience is so small that it's only your friends or your parents? So a few colleagues who seemed to, you know, understand what you're doing. And I think there's a lot of discussion about this now, you know, among people, there's some fear that people are going to write for the public and that by writing for the public, they'll only write in a commercial way that they'll only appease the masses and you know, write for, for things that will sell. But there's also this feeling that people are a little tired of people who write only for music for their close select group of fans who understand that style and can't go and just into walk into a concert without any, you know, abundant program notes explaining what they're doing, or some, you know, university education to explain what it is they're doing, or years and years of music appreciation. And a person should sit down and listen to a piece of music and I think just fall in love with it without having to have copious explanations about what it's all about.

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Glenn Holt 1:15:51

Sure. Well, where does your music come from?

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I love to I make love a lot. Yeah, that's a big part of it. I think my music is very sexual. I think it's very essential. It's certainly not academic. And it comes from a place that, that deals with what I feel it's visceral, I would say. And it's also about feeling it's about I think it's passionate. I'm a very passionate person.

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Glenn Holt 1:16:26

Robert Avalon composer and pianist, soon to be worldwide composer, when you take your tour, and

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yeah, we're getting there. I want to tell you about something in Amsterdam. We're starting a fully improvisational orchestra 50 players. Wow, we're going to have we're starting in March, we're going to have some workshops with ensembles, traditional classically trained ensembles that are going to improvise and then we're going to form ultimately expand to form a full orchestra that will perform without conductor but improvising everything that is on every concert.

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Glenn Holt 1:17:02

So you're just going to walk out on stage, no music, and write have a jam session.

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Well, it'll be a little bit more organized than what you would consider a jam session in the sense that everybody will have a real strong feeling of what everybody else is about. Uh, well, I guess you can have that in jam session too. But jam sessions team, some sort of seems to mean that there is no plan or no, no thought, you know, before for something happens. Hopefully, we'll we'll all get to know each other so well, that we'll start to feel each other styles. And we're going to do a lot of disciplines like body movement to see who's how people are moving among the group. And we're going to talk about meditating and listening to the sound so that everybody is not just jumping in chaotically and making you know, raucous constant sound all the time without, you know, pulling back and listening, you know, because I think, to really do a successful improvisation, you have to spend some time listening, like in a conversation, you have to throw it back off and hear what the other person says and then respond to it rather than talking simultaneously. And I think I think this is has great potential we're going to be called orchestra of the moment. And we have an already have a foundation called Stichting swing. That's really, really built to support it. And we'll be getting some government funding, some Netherlands government funding and as well as some multinational corporate funding for the project.

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Glenn Holt 1:18:28

Very good. Robert Avalon. You will be promoting your new orchestral CD at the borders on Alabama and Kirby this coming Wednesday, January 17. Starting at 7:30pm It's a free concert of one hour. Open to the public. Yeah,

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everybody come and listen, we're gonna have a good time.

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Glenn Holt 1:18:47

Thanks for stopping by. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices. You were listening to lesbian and gay voices. The possibility of another decisive battle in the Texas Capitol over hate crimes legislation surfaced Wednesday, when Democrats vowed to Sunday Republican Governor Rick Perry, a bill which would enhance penalties for violent acts motivated by prejudice including homophobia. More than two dozen democratic legislatures. Legislators stood shoulder to shoulder in a committee room near their house chamber to announce the filing of what they called the James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Bill, named for the African American man who was dragged to his death by white supremacists in Jasper in 1998. quote I have faith in the people of Texas and in the conscience of the legislature said the bills author, State Representative Senfronia Thompson of Houston discussing the chances for its passage. But the measure which is House Bill 57 faces an uphill fight because it would include enhanced penalties for homophobic crimes. targeting members of the gay can Unity. The hate crime legislation would prove as vexing for Perry, who took office last month as it was for then Governor George W. Bush. Perry said this week that he fears that a hate crime law would pit some groups of Texans against others. Bush used similar language two years ago, not wanting to offend minority groups who had been singled out for hate crimes and not wanting to anger social conservatives on the eve of his presidential candidacy. On Wednesday, party spokesman Kathy waltz said the governor will carefully consider the bill if it makes it to his desk. When Bush was forced to take a stand on the bill, he used almost identical language. This year's bill mirrors the legislation that was passed in the House but died in the Senate. When it was clear that the bill was doomed supporters staged a prayer vigil that stalled all business in the Senate for nine hours. During the crucial waning days of the session. The provision on sexual orientation could cause the same heartburn for lawmakers in this session. When the bill died two years ago, many believed it was killed to protect Bush's presidential ambitions. A key Democratic lawmaker who supported the bill in the Senate two years ago, suggested Monday night that he might reconsider because of the sexual orientation provision. Quote, which sexual orientation child molesters, pedophiles, asked Senator Kenneth Armbruster of Victoria. When you say sexual orientation, the connotation is homosexuality. There are a myriad of sexual orientations and quote, okay, so obviously Armbrister has no integrity, because anyone with an ounce of integrity would know better than to escape go to class of people with a fabulous myth. He is in a position to know that that there is no fact and what are you saying? And if he doesn't know it, then he has no business being a senator. Quote, It is not a homophobic reaction. It is a reaction that the terminology is not identified in the Constitution. What that does is open the door to as far as a matter of defense. Someone could claim Well, my sexual orientation is necrophilia or pedophilia. I'm Brewster said Armbrister is chairman of the Senate criminal justice committee and isn't that a scary thought, which would probably have to sign off on any hate crimes legislation before it could reach the Senate floor for a vote. Armbrister was among three committee Democrats who voted to send the hate crime bill to the full Senate, but they were outnumbered by the panels for Republicans. A former police captain Armbrister said his support for hate crimes legislation this year might depend on whether language can be drafted with sufficient precision to close loopholes that he said would open the door to any category that wants to be included. I believe we can work a bill out Armbruster said Acting Lieutenant Governor Bill Ratliff, a Republican from Mount Pleasant, who also represents the Northeast Texas district in the Senate acknowledged that the sexual orientation language is a stumbling block. But he said a compromise is possible. But a bill that would enhance penalties for crimes

committed based on prejudice against religion, gender, national origin, race and ethnicity would fall short. If sexual orientation were left out, Thompson said there will be no compromise on sexual orientation at least not by me, Thompson said to compare gays to pedophiles is just not right. Pedophiles prey on children. That is not a sexual orientation. That is something totally different. Speaker Pete Laney said because the bill cleared his chamber by a comfortable margin, and with the support of several Republican members two years ago, it will probably pass again. Democrats the session retain their seven to 72 majority. Two years ago the hate crime bill gained for House votes when something passes in the house by as large of a majority as it did last time. I don't see that there will be much change and the outcome this year said Laney the Senate's chief sponsor of the bill Houston Democrat Rodney Ellis said he plans to discuss the bill with Perry. Perry was lieutenant governor and president of the senate two years ago, when Ellis led the nine hour work stoppage that hamstrung the chamber for a day. Perry was credited by the bill's foes and allies for trying to forge a compromise in the language that both sides could embrace. Bush tried to stay clear of the fight. The issue of hate crimes came up periodically during the 2000 presidential campaign. But it did not play a pivotal role. I would hope that the presidential campaign in the national debate on the hate crimes issue did a lot to enlighten all of us in Texas, Ellis said and I would hope that the level of debate in the last session of the Texas Legislature brought us a long way. In other news wanderer Jean Allen African American lesbian and mentally disabled was put to death by the state of Oklahoma this past week, despite a flurry of last minute appeals and the arrest of 27 protesters, Wanda Jean died at 20 9:21pm Central time on January 11, after a lethal injection administered by the state of Oklahoma, and punishment for the shooting death of her lover Gloria Leathers in 1988. Allen had met Leathers while serving time on a manslaughter conviction for shooting to death her previous partner, some of Alan's last words to the press had been quote, I'm not afraid of what man can do to me, because my trust is in someone else. In other words, God, He said, Take no thought of tomorrow because we don't know what tomorrow is bringing. Most of her last days were spent in prayer. The US supreme court denied a last minute petition for a stay of execution without explanation. The 10th circuit US Court of Appeals had rejected an appeal earlier in the day, finding for the state on every count, following a rejection January 10 by US District Judge Tim Leonard. These appeals were based primarily on a prosecutors overstatement of Allen's academic achievements to the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board last month, and exaggeration, which was forgiven because it merely echoed Ellen's own testimony during her sentencing hearing. It had been stated that she had a high school degree and a medical assistant certificate from Rose State College, but in fact, she dropped out of both high school and the medical assistant program. This was significant because Allen's defenders were arguing in light of a recent US Supreme Court decision that she should not be put to death because her mental deficits, including an IQ measured after her sentencing at 80, which is on the borderline between normal and developmental disability. Islands defenders reported that with the facts of the matter, one clemency board member might have voted for her to be imprisoned for life instead of put to death. The board had voted to uphold the death sentence by three to one with one member absent. Alan's attorneys had told the federal appeals court that quote, the federal courts have not defined what the lowest level of due process should be in a clemency proceeding. And that question remains unanswered. The appeals court wrote that quote, although Miss Allen now contends her trial testimony was incorrect, we find no basis in the record for concluding that the state acted improperly. In short, Miss Allen has failed to substantiate her allegation of a due process violation. A synagogue has voted to sever its four year old ties to a Boy Scout group, unless the scout group rejects the national organizations stance on gay membership. The unanimous decision by members of Temple Judea in Coral Gables, Coral Gables, Florida follows a memorandum from reformed Jewish leaders to its members around the country. It says the scouts policy to exclude gays and lesbians did not conform to reform movement traditions, which call for the equal treatment of everyone. Quote,

my hope is that by sending the message that we don't tolerate this kind of discrimination on sexual orientation, we will enable the Boy Scout troops to also fight against discrimination, said Rabbi Edwin Goldberg. The Troop plans to leave the temple because of the decision, said Dave East him a troop 64 leader and a member of the temple quote, We don't want to be where we aren't wanted. Temple Judea is the only South Florida reformed synagogue that sponsors the scouts said Jeff Hamerton, an official for the South Florida Council of the Boy Scouts about 7000 7000 Scouts nationwide meet in reformed temples. He said quote tolerance for diversity doesn't mean you abdicate your own values Herman and said people who in our judgment cannot meet the Boy Scouts of America standards are not welcome. And there's that phrase again, not welcome. In Richmond, Virginia, less Quinn Tada clambered up a granite set of steps at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond, and carefully slipped through the brass door handle a two page letter protesting the Roman Catholic Church's teaching on homosexuality. A small band of Gay and Lesbian Advocates gathered in a circle outside the cathedral. They momentarily halted their prayer vigil to watch cantata make his delivery 1000s of miles away at the Vatican, and in several cities across America, similar vigils and protests were unfolding. Tuesday was the day selected by two prominent gay advocacy groups, soul force incorporated and dignity USA to mount an international protest, urging Pope John Paul the second to alter church teachings which condemn homosexual practices and behavior. While the leaders of the two groups were protesting in Rome, local activists were mirroring their activities here at home. Quote, what we are witnessing is the deep spiritual faith of gays and lesbians. Despite centuries of oppression and discrimination. cantata said we love our churches. We long to claim our rightful place in them openly and proudly celebrating who God created us to be. We come in love seeking reconciliation, injustice and truth and quote, the letter cantata delivered to the cathedral was a copy of an open letter to Pope John Paul. In it the Catholic Church is accused of engendering an atmosphere of hate and intolerance. Through its stance on homosexuality. It asks the church to end what it calls spiritual violence against members of the gay and lesbian community. The letter says, quote, church teachings declare homosexual orientation, objectively disordered and loving intimate acts intrinsically evil. In recent days, the Vatican has declared same sex unions a deplorable distortion and adoption by gay parents a grave danger. The Vatican supports laws which deny us the right to employment to housing, to equal government and employment benefits to teach to coach to serve in the military to adopt to serve as positive foster parents or to marry the person we love. If your teachings and actions apply that God rejects them, and that you reject them, is it any wonder that their families and friends reject them, and that they are demeaned by their classmates fired from their jobs, evicted from their apartments, hunted down and hounded out of the military, harassed and taunted in the streets and even killed by teenagers with guns and baseball bats. cantata was brought up Catholic but he said that he left the church nine years ago when an openly gay friend was expelled from his congregation, quote, eyes for I was very disturbed by the church's attitude. My friend was very faithful. But once the church found out he was gay. They wanted to expel him. Mary gay Hutcherson, who took part in the vigil said that what the protesters wanted the most was the ability to express their faith openly. And they did that just did that Tuesday, reading Biblical verses and singing Amazing Grace, but they want to perform such acts of worship inside church walls instead of outside. Quote, this particular church has been very open and accepting. The problem is with the church hierarchy, Hutcherson said we want them to understand that people who are gay and lesbian feel oppressed. The position of the church promotes violence, it gives people license to act out against gays and lesbians. The protesters were mindful that their vigils are unlikely to affect a radical shift in church teachings. Indeed, nobody at Sacred Heart cathedral was there to talk to the protesters or accept the letter. Organizers blamed that on the fact that cathedral officials were first notified of the vigil on Friday. But contado said a little progress is better than none at all. It's a step by step process, he said. Ultimately, we hope that it will have a snowball effect. The Nebraska Supreme

Court has been asked to decide if a county sheriff should have done more to prevent a 1993 murder, which was the subject of the movie boys don't cry. Tienen Brandon, a woman who passed as a man under the alias Brandon Tina was killed in retaliation for telling police that two men raped her after learning of her gender. The men also killed two others who witnessed Brandon's death. In a lawsuit mother Joanne Brandon argues that the former Richardson County Sheriff Charles Lowe, should have arrested John Lauder and Marvin listen for rape before they had the chance to kill her daughter. The High Court was to hear arguments Friday on the case, which has outright outraged gay lesbian and transgender advocates. In 1999, District Judge Orville Cody ruled that the county should have offered the 21 year old Brandon Tina protective custody after she reported the rape about a week after the murder. Cody did not find Lowe personally liable but admonished him and said that he should apologize to the Brandon family, friends and community. Joan Brandon is seeking more than \$350,000 from the community. However, she was only awarded \$17,300 and is appealing that damage amount. Her attorney Herbert Friedman said in a court brief that Lowe was more concerned with Brandon sexuality than he was with keeping her safe. A state judge has awarded sole custody of a three year old boy to his father, a gay man who hired the child's mother to have his baby. Even though surrogacy contracts are illegal in New York. State Supreme Court Justice Maryland diamond rejected the woman's bid for custody in a December 11 ruling noting that the child who was conceived by artificial insemination had been living with his father since he was born on September 17. The mother will appeal her lawyer Lindsey Feinberg said the woman had intended to create an alternative family in which she was the child's mother and the boy's father and his parents also served as parents. She intended to be a full mother Feinberg said she certainly never intended to be a surrogate mother. The case turned on a letter that the mother who was not identified in the opinion wrote to the Father, the woman who was then 43 years old ran an advertising company where the man worked as a graphics designer. The letter said that the man would take the baby home from the hospital and keep him slash her, and that the Father would not, quote, hit the mother up for support if I ever become rich and famous. Well as the months passed after the boy's birth woman changed her mind and sought more and more time alone with the child. The mother and father began fighting over custody, and the legal battle ensued. The Reverend Fred Phelps known for his protesting equal rights for lesbians and gay men with God Hates Fags signs, plans to burn a gay pride flag and hold demonstrations in Traverse City this month. The 71 year old Phelps said he and supporters will protest the city's adoption of a logo featuring a rainbow flag, a symbol some view as promoting gay pride. Intended to promote diversity the logo was a response to hate crimes that occurred last year, including one where three men attacked an employee of a gay friendly bar. City officials said they were unaware that the rainbow in the logo is an official Gay Pride symbol when it was printed on stickers and placed on city vehicles. Last week, they ordered the stickers removed after it stirred up the controversy. Phelps is the street theater buffoon who is also known for leading a group that spewed anti gay messages outside the funeral of Matthew Shepard. He said he plans to send a message to churches and city officials. He also plans to protest gay pride events in February in Ann Arbor. A local newspaper reported that the city had been bombarded with media calls, and some officials no longer wanted to talk about Phelps's plan visit. But Mullin Hartwell, a community activist said It is unfortunate Phelps is coming. But she expects it will bring the community together. Quote, the radical right cause such a ripple but the outcome has been overwhelming. Community support she said. And that is our look at the news at what's been happening this week. For LGV news. I'm Glenn Holt. That was dyke apella. Lesbian picnic at the gates of heaven.

J

Jack Valinski 1:37:18

Is it art or soup?

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Glenn Holt 1:37:20

Good question. That's actually from wonderful is it's a it's a special compilation music that JD Doyle put together

J

Jack Valinski 1:37:27

does for us because we know nothing about gay and lesbian music. And he has such a huge library. Yes, he does. I really appreciate him doing that. Actually, I do have a lot of music. It's just I never have time to sort of put it together. Or although he has a lot more than I do. Certainly. Right.

J

Joan Devlin 1:37:43

I mean, he has things dating back to the 30s and 20s. I mean, he's got some amazing stuff. And speaking of JD, he will be our featured next week second our queer music heritage. Yes, he's

J

Jack Valinski 1:37:54

doing a Hollywood queer Hollywood special.

J

Joan Devlin 1:37:57

Yes. And it sounds wonderful. Well, we haven't heard it yet. But I mean, based on what we've read about it, it sounds like it's going to be wonderful. Speaking

J

Jack Valinski 1:38:02

of old house re

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Joan Devlin 1:38:07

listening to the show and heard that

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Glenn Holt 1:38:10

I have never heard Jack be so catty.

J Joan Devlin 1:38:13

Oh, you fly. He just usually doesn't Off mic. I spoke to Ray last week he came through his operation fine, was flirting with the orderly in the hospital. And last I heard has been sent home which is where he is now resting comfortably

G Glenn Holt 1:38:29

that did they send him home because he was doing better or because he was flirting with the orderly Allah probably a little bit of both.

J Joan Devlin 1:38:35

I would think Allah knows when I was on the phone with him, he managed to run the orderly out of the room. So

J Jack Valinski 1:38:41

of course, we're talking about Ray Hill. That's right.

G Glenn Holt 1:38:44

And Ray had some kind of medical problems. Yes, he

J Joan Devlin 1:38:47

had to have his leg amputated below the knee. Don't know which leg it was but he was in great spirits when I called him, you know, more concerned with the fact that because part of the operation he wasn't able to eat or drink for 24 hours. He was more concerned with getting him something to eat something to drink and of course, flirting with the orderly.

G Glenn Holt 1:39:08

So now instead of three legs, he has two and a half.

J Joan Devlin 1:39:09

Okay, Glen. I hope he's not listening. He probably is. He's probably gonna call any minute now.

G Glenn Holt 1:39:20

Did you hear about the United States Marine Corps. Their their investigators sort of caught wind of a gay pornography ring that was functioning out at Twentynine Palms, which I guess is far

or a gay pornography ring that was functioning out at Twentynine Palms, which I guess is far south of Los Angeles or something

J Joan Devlin 1:39:37

right and claiming that the the people on the site were real Marines, the Twentynine Palms base.

G Glenn Holt 1:39:43

Right. And, and of course, the the marine spokesman's position was that pornographic activities would be incompatible with the ideals upheld by the Marine Corps. It's okay to kill people, but you just can't have sex.

J Joan Devlin 1:39:55

Well, no, you just can't have gay sex. Oh. Oh, Joe, what

G Glenn Holt 1:39:59

were you Eating course we know that never happens in the Marines.

J Joan Devlin 1:40:02

No, I was reading something called terror in the night, which is a history of the clans campaign against Jewish people took place in Mississippi during the Civil Rights Movement, and was in direct response to small Jewish congregation support a small Jewish congregation in Meridian, Mississippi in support of the Freedom Riders and other civil rights organizers. And the Klan turned on them. And just talks about some of the things the FBI did to infiltrate the Klan and find the people that were responsible for, for instance, bombing the synagogue and the home of the local rabbi.

J Jack Valinski 1:40:42

sounds really interesting.

J Joan Devlin 1:40:43

Yeah. The other thing I want to talk about as I read a really good book this weekend, and you'll be seeing the review in the triangle, but it's by Sarah Waters, who wrote Tipping the Velvet. It's called affinity. And it's about it's a very bizarre lesbian love story. It is about a woman who is recovering from a nervous breakdown. This is in London, 1873. She's recovering from a nervous breakdown. And one of the things she does is she goes into community service and visits

women who are in prison. And the descriptions of the prison will make you write checks to Ray Hill. I mean, it would be a great fundraising tool for him to use on his show. And she ends up falling in love with one of the prisoners who is a medium slash spiritualist, and is in jail for fraud and assault. And it goes on from there. It's very dark. It's very bizarre. And it's very compelling. I read it in one day. I started reading it at like 230 that afternoon and finished it at 230 that morning. But it's just a wonderful book. It's called again, affinity it's by Sarah Waters, and you can get your hands on it. Get your hands on it, because it was really really good and pletely different from Tipping the Velvet, which was a lot lighter was also lesbian love story, but just a lot lighter and easier to go through. There was no queer spoke yesterday. Yes, because Showtime was trying to attract new viewers I heard yes,

J Jack Valinski 1:42:07

they had a free weekend. Those of those people who don't subscribe, it would appear on their cable to watch for the weekend to try to attract people to subscribe.

J Joan Devlin 1:42:15

So why was queers folk not part of I guess

J Jack Valinski 1:42:18

they were afraid to show that well, prob actually, probably they couldn't probably be that well. And maybe I'll maybe be misspoken it'd be interesting to know what the truth was. They may not have been able to do it since queers Folk is sort of an R rating to show it. But then again, it'd be interesting. I wonder if there was already stuff being shown during that, you know, since you know, pay cable, this usually means that there is somewhat some type of control.

J Joan Devlin 1:42:48

Hmm, well, but the other half of it is, I mean, it's not like queers Folk is being shown at, you know, two in the afternoon.

J Jack Valinski 1:42:56

It's not shown it done nine o'clock.

J Joan Devlin 1:42:58

That's what I mean. So I just, I don't get that. I find that interesting. Especially because queers Folk is one of the things that has been attracting people to showtime.

J JACK VALINSKI 1:43:07

Well, so they are trying to get gays to subscribe to it. I guess. They were trying to go just after a more general audience, and I'm not trying to apologize for them. I'm just trying to, you know, wonder about it.

G Glenn Holt 1:43:17

Hey, Jack, what's coming? What's happening Thursday? Nothing.

J Joan Devlin 1:43:23

Oh, okay. logo on failing. What? Nothing.

G Glenn Holt 1:43:30

All right. Well, let's remind everybody about what's happening Wednesday, then. Because Wednesday, remember, we had Robert Avalon talking about that. And that's going to be that free concert at borders on Alabama and Kirby. And that concert starts at 7:30pm and runs for an hour. And that is free and open to the public. And he's going to be promoting and signing copies of his new CD, which was produced here locally, it's to the concert hall with local musicians.

J Jack Valinski 1:44:04

It is real nice that borders is now inside the loop. There's a borders inside a loop, and that they have a performance place. But I just hope it doesn't affect the book stop, which is a great bookstore also.

G Glenn Holt 1:44:15

True true.

J Jack Valinski 1:44:17

Next week,

J Joan Devlin 1:44:18

next week, JD Doyle Of course, and the National Gay and Lesbian immigration taskforce will be on to talk about what a Bush presidency means to them and their issues, among which were, you know, Al Gore promising that he would try to, you know, pass laws that would allow partners of people who are non residents of the US to, you know, come and live like partners with people rights.

G

Glenn Holt 1:44:42

You have been listening to lesbian and gay voices heard each Monday at 8pm here on KPFT. publicly funded Pacifica network station, lesbian and gay voices is produced live in Houston with recorded segments from this way out, which is produced Add KPFK in Los Angeles, lesbian and gay voices executive producer is Jack Valinski on air voices are Joan Devlin Glen Holt and Jack Valinski. You can write to us at PO Box 66071 Houston, Texas 77266 or send email to LGV news@aol.com. Be sure to listen to KPFT every Saturday night at midnight for after hours with Jimmy Carper. It's queer radio with attitude, lesbian and gay voices credits the following news sources, the Associated Press the Fort Worth Star Telegram, the Detroit News, Bloomberg, Deutsche presse ajan tour, the Richmond times dispatch, gay financial network@gfn.com and Han net. This is the sound of Texas 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston. for lesbian and gay voices, I'm Glenn Holt.