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quilt, people, panel, names, project, read, gladys knight, aids, aids quilt, day, written, love, called, song, died, pips, hours, square, listening, person



00:21

Tom Robinson child. Yeah. I guess that that was fun, wasn't it?



00:27

Yeah. That was Scott Simpson with the action for AIDS coalition.



00:34

And this is after hours. What are you gonna say



00:37

group will probably be hearing more about in the future?



00:40

I certainly hope so.



00:41

And this is after hours



00:43

on KPFT



00:59

00:55
Okay, Mary,

01:00
yeah,

01:01
you've given me that look, well says this is the award winning Bette Midler.

01:06
Yeah, I'm surprised you're playing it because I saw you pulling out a record. Look when beneath
model Yeah. Which is a wonderful song

01:14
and award winner child. And it was written by whom? You remember the name? You have your
glasses on? I don't. I can't read it.

01:24
I know. I know.

01:25
Who was it written by? Thing and

01:29
honey while we're talking very handily, and Jeff Silber, Bette Midler,

01:32
seeing beaches, no. singing on the beach, when beneath my way she's singing Wind Beneath
My Wings.

01:40
But as your friend John pointed out,



01:45

yes, there was a recording made in 1983 by a group by the name of



01:53

Gladys Knight and her lovely pips.



01:56

Let me see one of those nice looking 50 got their young man. Yes, she's



02:01

got three of them.



02:04

I wish I had one. I'm kidding. Gladys Knight and the Pips This is from the album visions. Right. And it's a song called Hero written by



02:18

the same people it was whereas it Larry Hanley and Jeff Silber Do you know something else? John? What?



02:32

Look at this album cover. I'm looking at the front cover right? Yeah, it says the this the album cover I'm talking about front cover. Renee. I can't pronounce that name. I'll bet I can. 60 Okay, read it right here. Front Cover talking about the album cover



02:49

album cover. Rene. Amma greet Okay. Lay a memoirs. Done St. Okay, memories are the same. I wish I had yes hair Hey. They lovely Roger who speaks fluent French. I mean this kid does French honey.



03:11

Right here baby. Keep singing bed.

 03:14

Linen wildness sign. What is it? Linen Wilda sang which means the memories have the same

 03:20

memories of a saint. And it continues to say in English

 03:24

1960 oil on canvas private collection courtesy of the mineral foundation. I know this Houston Texas. Yes. You didn't say that. Well, everybody doesn't deal with the Manal Foundation has one of the largest collection of surrealistic paintings ever and they have a lot of my greets a lot of what migrates you got like a pip Rene Marguerite the artists.

 03:52

Anyway, this song is called we

 03:54

need to hold her down and beat her.

 03:58

I have a date a computer day. Thank you. Oh, he'll do it. I don't think so. Check that box. Oh,

 04:05

I see. Okay, I'm just kidding. Anyway, anyway,

 04:08

we're gonna listen to this song before we get into trouble the name of it is hero. The song is hero and it's Gladys Knight and the Pips from the album vision

 04:16

from 1983 Thank you very much. Shut



04:19

up queen. Okay, here we go.



04:49

Child I like that arrangement.



04:52

That was definitely Gladys Knight.



04:56

Kind of that. That little bit of soul a little bit of gas. full flavor. Isn't



05:00

that flawless? Yeah. John, anything?



05:03

How come? Nobody ever heard of it?



05:05

I don't know, John, thanks for calling and saying thank you. But thanks for bringing that to our attention. Oh kidding. Because that was a beautiful, beautiful song and a child attempt to tell you one more time it has been one hell of a week because of all the work because of all the rain. Plus, they've been training on Central and I haven't been able to dispatch on Montrose all week. I had to work west side have to do with it. Charlie had accidents everywhere else. Oh, yeah. Everybody had to have a wreck. And then every alarm in town had to go off and it was just very, very busy. Let's I wasn't working with my boys on Central and I was just like your boys on Santa. Oh, I love Central. You know I do. But this week has been really funny because I've spent hundreds of dollars in both bad houses and the adult front, the French Quarter cinema and all the bookstores. Why are you looking for love in all the wrong place?



06:00

That's right. You know, find love there you find instant gratification.



06:03

I couldn't even find that because I didn't stay long enough. I would know I would go in and get angry at myself for being there and spend all this money in no time. All I heard from these clerks that was checking in and out was that was fast. Like, thank you very much. Let me out of here. Why am I here? Anyway, why was I there? Anyway, you know,



06:24

I don't know what's been bugging you that you should want to



06:28

I heard this song and I have to play this song. Okay, okay.



06:44

Does that make any sense?



06:46

Well, I can't have



06:49

understanding and playing this song for me.



06:52

Yeah, me, me, me. Me. You're talking to people playing head game? No,



06:56

no, no, no, I'm tired of me playing all these games with myself. Ah, do you see what I mean? Like I can. I can settle for sex at the bathhouse or the bookstore or the park and be satisfied with that. And I'm not satisfied with that. I haven't been satisfied with that. So why am I playing these little head



07:16

games with myself thinking that you're gonna find love? You see

 07:19

what I mean? Does that make any sense? Yeah. Makes sense to me. Yeah, we will. We all play head games with ourselves at various points. But there's a way out of that rut. Right. Okay. Well, that's the way I don't know, Mary. If I did, I'd write a book and get rich and I could quit coming here on Saturday nights.

 07:39

You know what I said last week, and I still stand by it. That's fine. What did you say? You're gonna find a lover, doing the groceries, doing the laundry? Doing the mundane? Day to day things? You're not gonna find them in a singles bar? Or let me get my violin out? I know. I know. I know. It's, it's, you know why you're saying that because it's not exciting. That's not where you envision the prince charming to be.

 08:05

I just envisioned him calling me and taking me out after a hard week at work. That's

 08:10

what I envisioned. We have to meet the sucker first.

 08:13

Well, that's true. And you know,

 08:15

I haven't been doing the laundry enough.

 08:18

Right. And we've been meaning to talk to you about

 08:22

you know, I just, I only got one match out of this computer dating thing I think is that like it? I mean, for real. You send in they said they suggested I alter my form a little because it said like, I want hairy people. And that's it that excludes 50% of our members. If they're not if they're

I want hairy people. And that's it that excludes 50% of our members. If they're not if they're only one hairy man, I mean, I want a man with hair on his chest. And I put to the these hairless folks, no veto, like the Presidential veto. And it's you have excluded 50% of our members. Well, those are 50% of the folks that just won't be talking to you. If

 08:57

you're really serious. You're really serious about you really want people why not?

 09:02

Why settle for something you don't want? Well don't answer you could be listening or having somebody tape this if

 09:11

are later Dan Lee is hairy. But it sounds like I mean, you're concentrating a lot on physical.

 09:19

Well, if you're not happy with the physical, you're not going to be happy with anything else. I mean, you may you got to wake up in the morning and look at it.

 09:26

No, I don't know. Well, I can't put a bag on its head and sadly and I don't live together. Well, I want something a little closer to home. And I'm not real pretty in the morning. Anyway,

 09:36

I know that I've seen him early in the morning, going to the airport.

 09:40

I have lasted 12 years.

 09:42

But do you know what I mean? You know what I mean? Why go after something you don't want if you want something, don't you think? Yeah, I've always Jeff. Jeff, our newsman is here. Don't you think that I mean Why settle for something you don't want for there's got to be some physical attraction, but I mean, it's got to be balanced with things says, Well, I want somebody

that can read the funny paper on Sunday. But you know you I mean, you have to have a mind. But all that plays it kind of reminds me there aren't any hairy men that that don't have intellect and aren't, you know, nice to be around and don't You're shaking your head? Yes. Let me tell you what, that mean, all men are stupid or once

 10:16

upon a time. Yeah, this guy asked me out.

 10:21

Oh, God, are we gonna hear that story?

 10:24

So many asked me. No, no, no, this guy asked me out. And as it turned out, on our first or second day, he mentioned that he liked guys with mustaches. So you grew one? No, I already had one. Okay. And he said that he would not even consider dating a guy who didn't have a mustache. I can relate to that. That was the last time I dated him. Why? If he puts so much value on whether I have a mustache or not, I mean, I'm the same person with or without one. No, that's not true. I certainly am.

 11:00

Maybe on the inside. But look at that outside baby. Maybe that's fine. None of us have husbands.

 11:08

And I've had several.

 11:11

Yeah, well, let's run down your long list of loves. That'll take up the other two hours.

 11:17

Oh, no. Maybe I'm weird. Do you know because I've always gone for what's inside the head, not what's outside of the body?

 11:26

Well, that's true. But surely to God, there has to be part of a person is what's in between the year surely there has to be a hairy man that has some intellect wrapped around inside all that hair. I mean, why can't that happen? Well, those happen. He's telling me it's not gonna happen.



11:41

I'm telling you that you're limiting yourself.



11:44

But I know what I want.



11:47

You think you know what you want to



11:50

not even get into this



11:51

kind of your last?



11:53

Last what?



11:57

Get yourself out of this.



11:58

Look, you gotta realize that it's two minutes before 2am which is going to be 3am. So you've got in like, 30 seconds, you can shoot a whole hour.



12:06

Tell me about the amount of hair that was on the body of the last person that you dated? Not anything? Uh huh. And

anything? Oh man. And,



12:16

and I regret every minute. No, I don't regret any of that.



12:18

No, you don't. But it didn't work out for other reasons that at the time,



12:22

I was always looking for some and I knew it wasn't going to be there. And I wasn't satisfied. Honest to God,



12:28

you were interested in this person and they didn't have any hair.



12:32

I'm not going to change the form on the thing. So forget it. I'm gonna play this song.



12:38

Okay. And just about a minute and a half, they will be gonna be three o'clock.



12:46

Oh, is it because it's almost two and then it'll be three. I don't know why the hell they do it. Just the whole hour just goes away. I have an uncle that he's he's dead now. And he did not ever do this. father's brother. He never changed his clocks. He was the farmer and went to the farmers market and didn't change his cattle and hogs. He never changed his clocks ever. He thought it was some communist conspiracy or something. I don't know what he thought. But he never did it.



13:13

Wasn't he a little kind of like off for about six months of the year?



13:17



13:17

No, because he knew that if it was three, it was actually four or five or whatever



13:21

it is, you know, people still say that. You know, they'll say, Well, when you ask them what time like tomorrow, everybody's going to be saying, well, it's really four o'clock, but it's kind of three o'clock. And if it's actually three o'clock, we change



13:38

that to like, like, seven, eight o'clock, we really screwed up. You know, this could be a colossal joke, it could be like noon, and we could all be missing our lunch right now. In any case, you're tuned in 90.1 FM and we're trying to solve my Love Live.



13:56

Speaking of clocks on time, the clock is actually 12 hours off. Because the day is measured by the passage of this nearest star, which is our sign across your meridian



14:13

o meridian.



14:19

And that is measured at noon by us. So that's actually the beginning of the day.



14:25

That's for me.



14:29

We, we set our clocks 12 hours off so that it starts at midnight, rather than at noon, but the day actually starts at noon.



14:38

Thank you Roger. I'm so glad to hear that. Because my day does start it



14:43

always starts. In any case, it's 2am which means it's actually three at



14:49

three o'clock in the morning.



14:53

And you're listening to a bunch of Queens



14:55

just went by so fast.



14:57

I had My whole sex life has been like 35 We'll be back in a minute. The Lesbian and Gay community has a voice over the airwaves.



15:20

A friend, you can't catch it. Like some of these people think you will catch it by shaking, hands hugging, you can't catch it like that. I mean, these guys who are dying of AIDS, they want you to hold and hug them because things want some loving?



15:57

Of God, sometimes things don't work out. You just have to sift through some of the guys very bitter. And they they couldn't understand why I was helping him. I mean, I was a woman, a straight woman, and an A Catholic woman. And I wanted to know, why was I doing it? And I just put love comes first. And so I was told my favorite because my family comes first. And I want to know, if ever happens to my family, will I be



16:40

prepared? No one is ever prepared for AIDS. I'm Liz volt and you're listening to the stories of the people who work on the names project. Scott Lago was working in the gourmet foods department at Neiman Marcus before Christmas. Today, he's the national production manager for the largest community art project in the US.



17:00

I'm like the resident historian. If they have a question, Scott, do you remember that panel for little girls see? Yes. Who made it? It was Rebecca that the 14 year old girl who came in here? Oh, yeah. Yeah, it has purple pain. And it says little girl, and then see in quotation marks. So I tried to instill in all of the volunteers here that the panel, you know, we need to do everything that we possibly can to preserve the integrity of the panel, even if the person who made it was not very technically oriented, or knew really the best technique to use to put that license plate on that panel or whatever



17:39

AIDS has touched every walk of life. And those walks of life are graphically represented on this quilt.



17:45

There's one panel that has an entire scape of, I don't know sort of like a montage of the entire United States. And it has the Golden Gate Bridge over here and it has the Washington Monument and the Pentagon over here. And then it depicts important events. In the in the person's life from one end of the country to the other. It has a tree with branches and each branch has the name of a family member or loved one on it. And then it shows his cat and his his love of cooking and his love of it a piece of cross stitch that he made himself. You know, they're very, very personal.



18:20

The patches of the AIDS quilt attached to an impersonal statistic, a name of a person who was loved by friends and family. In some cases, real tokens of memories shared with friends and loved ones are attached to the quilt patches.



18:34

Oh Lord, we have had license plates. Air conditioning vents, Barbie dolls. Teddy Bears, teddy bears, teddy bears, teddy bears. Let's see all kinds of political pins and buttons and bumper stickers, photographs, shoes, crystals, paint brushes. Gosh, and I'm not even thinking of articles of clothing, of course, personal effects, ashes. All kinds of things that you just amazed and they're made out of so many different things. There's one that's made out of a three foot by six foot piece of leather. One huge piece of leather. There's one that's made out of a three foot by six foot piece of plastic,



19:23

sometimes funny, sometimes touching sometimes irreverent. Always though always personal. These quilted memorials soften the cold statistics surrounding this epidemic. Viewing the

patches brings home the impact the personal toll this epidemic has had in our communities all across the United States



19:41

there are there are farmers names with the with the list of the of their favorite cows or a prize winning goat razor and the ribbons from the from the fair that he won. And there's postal workers uniforms and police badges and And Lions Club vests and running club T shirts and medals and medallions and Boy Scout memorabilia and anything that you could possibly use to identify someone as being from a particular part of the country or for being from a particular walk of life.



20:52

My heart is over. Case



21:07

a huge quilt eight football fields big side by side and enormous Memorial made by those who remember their children, their lovers, family and friends. For an organization with a project of national scope such as the AIDS Memorial Quilt, the names project is still an organization in its infancy, founded only last summer, the names project has structured a 20 city tour of the United States on a shoestring budget. The donations have poured in from the simple like cloth remnants and sewing supplies to the miraculous



21:37

well like 15 computers from Apple, two laser printers, I mean, you know, they're, they're doing, they're giving, far above and beyond anybody's expectations. our wildest dreams were were realized, the Flying Tigers flu, the flu, the quilt to Washington and back, the teamsters union offered to drive it for us, the Communications Workers of America installed our phone system for free. The phone system itself was donated by a charity in in Southern California that outgrew it



22:15

easy to overlook is the fact that the names project seeks to effect the AIDS crisis through the Avenue of the Arts. David is a director and writer currently writing the story of the quilt for the stage.



22:26

Well, initially, I was drawn to the project because of the strong commitment I saw that these people had. And what I discovered was that this was the largest community arts project in the

world. People were sending panels in from all over the country from all sectors of life. And it was the thing that really drew me to find out for myself, what was being created here in San Francisco, something worth seeing for yourself. You've never seen anything like this.



22:51

The quilt is tied



22:52

to tradition. evident everywhere around the quilt is the love and camaraderie that surrounds an old fashioned quilting bee. Even how the quilt is unfold, it speaks to ceremony and tradition.



23:03

It's a sort of a synthesis of quilting tradition, and dance and ceremony as the there's 32 names on us in a square. And each a reader reads the 32 names off of that square as eight people unfold that square, the quilt is folded in a lotus flower shape and is open for four corners at a time. Like a like the petals of a flower opening and then lifted and and rotated and laying into place. Hey Have the squares are opened in a pattern that suggests the way they were sewn together or the stitches that were used to sew them together. And then the last square is a blank square. Basically, that it recalls the quilting tradition of a signature sash signature sash was the area on a friendship quilt that was the symbol that they have the unity that brought people together to make the quilt in the first place. And so we've incorporated that tradition in a blank square in which people can come to the quilt and write their thoughts or feelings or the name of a loved one or their name. I was here you know to witness this. And to me it's that's the most moving part of the entire quilt is to see that that immediacy and the emotion that's contained in that 24 foot square.



24:39

Wade Walker works on the production management team and the names project storefront office in San Francisco. Like all the volunteers who work on the quilt, wait is never far from a side of his job that he hadn't counted on. When he first came to the names project.



24:52

This man and woman came in and they were bringing their panel and they've been a husband or wife and the panelists for the only so on. And he died when he was 19. And he died in 84. And he was only a year older than myself. And it was so nice to see that they had grown from the experience. And reading the letter that came with the panel is that they saw something in there so that they never would have had the chance to see before they actually saw him grow from the experience, despite the fact that he was dying. And it wasn't hard for them to hand the panel over, because it was there letting go and putting it to rest of their only son and it was

harder for me to accept hail from them. Because here I'm taking the last the last time the other owner said it was so interesting, but the letter itself was so moving, that they had learned so much from their son dying before for them.

 25:52

The quilt is now over 4000 panels large for every panel of the AIDS quilt. There are eight more people who have died when the quilt returns to Washington DC this coming October it will cover the entire length of the Capitol Mall

 26:05

35,000 deaths is such a hard concept to grasp for anyone but I don't know anybody who has seen the panels seen the display and hasn't been moved by them and and you realize that something needs to be done because it's a great loss

 26:29

and never thought this way and just

 26:41

to say that I do believe

 26:53

well then close your eyes and try

 27:08

meet smile. Keep shall know when you can always.

 27:26

And man times

 27:38

just sometimes you'll see a panel that you've never done this before. And you've read what it says there's a panel that was for a person who died the day before his 23rd birthday. And there's a poem on it that has kind of stuck with me. And it was what if I had all the time in the

world? What would I do with a bottle like perfume? If I did have all the time in the world, but when I asked you that to build me up during that poem has stuck in my head since I first saw that panel a few months ago, that always keeps coming to mind because it mimics a lot of the things that I think it's not even 22 yet. And the same things go through my mind. You know what if I had the time to do it



28:21

keep shining, knowing you can always count on me.



28:30

That's what friends



28:37

in bad times.



28:49

For working on a national AIDS Memorial isn't just sadness and grief.



28:53

I expected this to be a very downbeat place. It's kind of like a mortuary. That's exactly the opposite. There's laughter and I was happy. And I've met a lot of people here who I respect. I never thought I ever could. But it's been interesting just to meet the people that



29:10

are here. There are hundreds of volunteers who feel exactly like Wade, they find the names project to be an appropriate compassionate response to the AIDS epidemic.



29:19

A lot of people you know, wonder how you know, how can you do it? Isn't it hard, isn't it, you know, depressing. I'm not going to say that there aren't times that, that it's difficult, and there are times that we cry here we do. But there's a lot of joy in this place too. And there's a lot of hope and people coming together and working together and working through that grief. You know, we've all got that common thread, if you'll pardon the expression of, of having lost someone



30:11

The names project and the National AIDS Memorial Quilt is a passionate act of public caring. The viewing of the quilt is a profoundly moving experience. It's been compared by many to the intensely personal moment of finding a loved one's name on the black granite wall of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, some will know at least one of the names lovingly stitched into this great quilt. And even those who do not can share in the collective grief that binds all in our community, whether they're black or white men or women, gay or straight.



30:41

It's a job that is very meaningful for me, and it's the most important job that I've ever had. And at the same time, I'd be so happy to put myself out of a job by seeing the end of all of this, the end of the epidemic and the end of the need for the quilt.



30:58

The AIDS quilt is currently on a 20 city tour of the United States. Any money raised while the quilt is on tour will go directly to support agencies doing direct service with AIDS patients in the cities where it will visit. If you need more information just call us here at the radio station. This program is dedicated to all those who are currently battling with AIDS. Our hearts are with you



31:21

2170 must be someone that you know woven together in a quick break names and loved ones wrong. And I know that my name could be there and pain and persons do not make us all we are counting numbers but as name



32:08

this program was written by Danny Lemos produced by Scott Swenson, executive producer Patricia Bob. It has all been made available to this station through Pacific vision. I'm Liz Fulton.



32:23

Well, that's that Mary. That



32:24

was wonderful. I've never heard



32:27

you have to understand that the names project quilt was on a tour a 20 city tour back when that happened. It was it was here in Houston and Mother's Day of 1988 I believe

 32:40

it it's a it's a great tape because I think for me for years on it. It'll really say something to us. There are little things in it that are dated like at that time they were talking about only 35,000 deaths. And now of course it's what 100,000

 32:56

Over 100 But it's still a great program. Yes. Tomlin Pina what happened to poor Lily Tomlin. They walked her out on that quilt without any prior knowledge or with any prior experience with the quilt. It was very overwhelming. Oh, yes. Because unless you've seen it, I mean, they're talking about teddy bears and T shirt. This is like going through someone's closets when you walk down through that and no pun intended. But actually, there are people's clothing, jock straps, feather boas, you name it. It's there. And it's it's quite an overwhelming experience. It truly truly am.

 33:34

I just stuck around in the middle of her. Yes, I then stuck a microphone in her face. And

 33:39

she was very taken in by the whole thing was very unfair. But Roger and I were on the executive committee when the quilt came to Houston in 88. And I remember they part of the tradition of the quilt is as it is unfolded. The names of the people who are there are read aloud. Yeah. And we were given a list of names to read, one of which was Liberace. But one was also a dear friend of mine, Bob Hodge, his lover. Yeah. And when they gave me the list, I said, who cannot happen to the list? said no, I'm sorry. We were like number five or six on the list of people who read in that bed early in the morning. And it was easy to say Liberace, but it was held reading Paul's name. And knowing that, somewhere in that building, Bob was there. Well, Bob was up in the Georgia brown Convention Center. That's where he had to quit looking at the Texas panels and heard me he knew that was me reading but he was really taken aback when he heard me read this. Love this thing. And he came down I was just wrecked by the time it was over. And he met me going up the stairs and he hugged me and he said, Thanks for reading my baby's name. So it made it all worth it. It was very beautiful. Speaking of very beautiful this is a piece that Hitachi did for us not too long ago. And you mentioned this music. I heard the music where this music come Yeah, the music's from the movie St. Thomas fire. Yes, it is. And it's the love theme from st mo Spire. But the speaker is Hitachi and this is a poem she wrote about a programmer who used to be here worked on the Wildenstein program with Jack and Ray Hill. And it's called you Why did you leave me? Right? Yeah, this is the Tasha you're listening to after hours on KPFT 90.1 FM

