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SPEAKERS

LuJack Tyler, Jimmy Carper, Christian Andreson, Scott Lewis, Speaker 1, [Introduction], Rob Nash

[I] [Introduction] 00:07

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised.

S Speaker 1 00:44

Oh yes, you've tuned into After Hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news, interviews and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. Here it After Hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of a job or frame of mind. That's okay. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax and enjoy this week's edition of After Hours.

S Scott Lewis 02:05

[INAUDIBLE] oh, one of these things is not like the other one of these things is dead and surprisingly it's not Jimmy. Which is a surprise because [INAUDIBLE] because at his age, it could be any minute. You know, mine is dead too. So I don't know if maybe it's just not turned up proper.

L LuJack Tyler 02:26

Let's not get sexual Scott.

S Scott Lewis 02:28

— Let's not [INAUDIBLE] Jack. Lou Jack was hitting on me in the lobby. And now he doesn't want any piece of me. Maybe a thigh? Hmm.

L LuJack Tyler 02:39

[INAUDIBLE] go get coffee.

S Scott Lewis 02:45

If I go get coffee, I'll have two or three teammates. LuJack Tyler, just hanging out just being the activist marching in the streets tonight.

L LuJack Tyler 02:57

I know it's scary, that you let people like me marching the streets these days, you know?

S Scott Lewis 03:01

Well, you know, the HPD wasn't there. So that's what it was all about.

S Speaker 1 03:05

Was that an after our show or why.

S Scott Lewis 03:09

I was hosting Michael Crawford was there. LuJack was there. It was incredible.

S Speaker 1 03:16

Gigi was there.

L LuJack Tyler 03:17

Yeah.

S Speaker 1 03:18

He was there.

S

Scott Lewis 03:19

Take back the streets brought to you by After Hours. we probably could have been the sponsors. Lou Jack Tyler. We have a busy show, busy. We have a busier than Jimmy at the French Quarter. Let me tell you.

L

LuJack Tyler 03:33

Jimmy French Quarter in Hawaii where he just came from.

S

Scott Lewis 03:35

Yes, yes. Which we will talk about later. We have tons of things to talk about Jack has a little bit of a tan on humans thing. I think we have tons of stuff to talk about Rob Nash and Christian Andreessen are going to be here a little bit later. HOG, The Houston outdoor group is going to be here a little later. And later in the show, I have a token straight person that's going to come and host with me for a little while. He's a he's a great little 19 year old kid hangs out at the clubs all the time. And I just want to give him hell and find out you're straight. All your friends are gay. You always hang out in gay bars. How are you ever going to find a woman? So I just thought that'd be cute besides just kind of cute. So anyway, his name is Juan Imagine that. I don't know you can ask him yourself. So anyway, what's going on LuJack?

L

LuJack Tyler 04:21

Well, it's been a very, very busy day. And, and I started my day off like the majority of us in Texas with the Barbara Jordan funeral. I had the misfortune of being interrupted time and time again with people calling me come literally complaining about Barbara Jordan because she was suspected as being a member of the family. And so I thought about it. And I thought about it again. And I just wanted to share my views I felt pretty much the same way that she was a courageous woman, a brave woman, and, and so forth. But sometimes it's, it's great when a person can come out. Because that's, that's, that benefits us as a community. But for a person like Barbara Jordan coming out would have been, I honestly believe counterproductive, instead of productive because she came out and every other aspect of her life, she came out as a woman, and demanded respect, she came out as a black and demanded respect. She came out as a person from the south and demanded respect at a time when you could not do that. And so I honestly think that that as a human being she was a great person.

S

Scott Lewis 05:53

Somebody told me tonight that her lover was introduced by Anna Richards.

L

LuJack Tyler 05:57

Only, Ann Richards identified her lover only because I watched the funeral. And I remember it word for word. And and other representatives and heads of state identify the family by name

with the exception of the lover and, and I have to commend Ann Richards I mean, if she's listening to the show, which I doubt, but I have to highly, highly commend Ann Richards. Because without even identifying Barbara Jordan lover, as her lover, she respected Barbara Jordan enough. And she respected Barbara Jordan's lover enough to speak to her as such. And so it was a very dignified, you know, and there are a lot of great, great, great speakers there. And so I'm, I'm proud as a Texan, I'm proud and African American. And I'm proud as a gay person, even though she didn't come out.

 Scott Lewis 06:50

You know, the only thing I have to say here is that in the dictionary next to the word, dignity is Barbara Jordan's picture. I mean, she just epitomizes that word for me.

 LuJack Tyler 07:06

Yeah. So many gay and lesbian people, time and time again, say, well, where's our Martin Luther King, and where's our Malcolm X? And where's our Barbara Jordan? I don't know where they're at. And I and, and I, you know, Barbara Jordan, through her entire career said, do not look at me as just a woman or just an African American look at me as a human being trying to do the right thing. I think that during the Watergate hearings, when she spoke of the Constitution as being the total and complete, she spoke as an American citizen, not necessarily as a woman, or an African American woman, from the south, she spoke as, as a human being concerned about the rights of everyone. And so I think that as gay and lesbian people, our leaders are important. But at the same time, without being gay or lesbian, we are human beings. And so everyone that stands up for right, I think, our leaders, and I think are our allies and our friends, and so I have to agree with you dignity is Barbara Jordan. It's ironic, also, that today Queer Nation had in march, to tell it like it was in regards to hate crimes. I spoke an Austin and, and I was angry, then, and I'm angry now that folks who who disagree with us, choose to kill us. They don't think that um not giving us the right to be human beings is enough without killing us. And so on this day where we honor woman who spoke up for justice, I think that that, that, that for those that are living, we must continue to march, we must continue to raise hell, we must continue to do the things that are right. For for our own children, because those will those will be the ones that will benefit from everything that we do. And so, Scott, you were at the march, in fact, you were one of the leaders of the march.

 Scott Lewis 09:17

Yeah I, think it's time is and as explained, of course, you know, and I don't know where it'll end up and where it won't, where it'll be edited from, because you you talk to the media, you know, for 10 and 15 minutes, and they use literally 10 or 15 seconds of what you had to say. But I tried to stress to everyone that first and foremost why I got involved in why I thought there was a need for Queer Nation again, was that I saw the death of Brian Bradley as an incredible loss not only not only to this community, but to me personally. Brian meant a whole lot to me and I knew that when Brian passed that it would take a At least 10 people to do what Brian Bradley single handedly did for this community, whether people know it or not. And so I wanted to get those 10 people together to organize. I had been approached, Gina had approached me, Paul Mullins and I had discussed it, and we decided that it was time. And then we planned our first

meeting for January. This is something we've been talking a bit about since late October, early November. And it just happened, the [INAUDIBLE] murder happened. And we had the opportunity that we cease to make that make his murder our first action, and I think it was very successful. There were about 250 people there that marched candlelight in hand, hats off. And big thanks go to Count Constable Jack Abercia, whose office helped and guided us who stopped traffic for us, so that we could have our streets, which HPD never would have done for us. It was incredible. The pastor of the First Unitarian Church spoke, Michael Crawford spoke Laura Mitchell spoke. Kenneth Stern, was supposed to have been there, I didn't see him so I don't know that he was or wasn't that was [INAUDIBLE] widow. So it was an incredible, an incredible event. And I was proud to be a part of it. And I would encourage anyone that wasn't able to be there, or that wants to make a difference and get involved to become a part of coordination or the GLPC, or the Gay Lesbian Switchboard or come here and volunteer at After Hours, do something to make a difference. And you can get involved with Queer Nation they meet Monday night at 7pm. At the First Unitarian Church at the corner of Fannin and Southmore, that's where HATCH meets on Fridays and Sundays, and we'll be meeting there Monday night, I would encourage anyone to come out and make be a part of the difference be a part of the solution to the problem.

L

LuJack Tyler 12:04

Scott, you know, one thing that I am also proud of is is the fact that the press is taking this murder seriously, when Michael Brzezinski was murdered, that there wasn't as much I don't feel press coverage about Michael Brzezinski, when Paul Brusilov died. I wasn't necessarily necessarily solely around for that period. But I do remember press being in that, but I see press being more in the death of the latest gentleman that that has been murdered. And I'm very glad to see that a large sum of organizations are working together, PFLAG, GRPC, Queer Nation, the family and a large sum of people actually standing up waking up and acting up. Because to a lot of folks. The murders of four people isn't that much. I live in a house with a large sum of guys that I work with. And, and I watched the news coverage. And I sat there as they ridicule and they and they laughed about the fact that Queer Nation marched because only four people were murdered. I think that that four people in Houston were murdered. But the reason for thier murder. I think it's cause for more than a march. I'm a person that I think if you hit me, I need to I need to, I need to make sure that you don't hit anybody else. But gay people are trying to be peaceful about this. There was a time when the English settlers came to the United States and tried to take over the land of the continental natives. And the continental natives died because they refused to let that happen. African Americans were drove over here in boats and forced to work the land and and they revolted. Not enough of them revolted. But they did. And then Abraham Lincoln gave them the right to shoot some of the former slave owners they did it without cause or without any concern. I think that that America should be happy. And that in that state of Texas and Houstonian should be happy that all we're doing is marching when the police drowned it. Jose Torres 1977 Mexican Americans and Hispanics revolted and took to the streets. Four people well, it may not mean a lot to you, those who are saying that but it means a lot to me. If I had it my way instead of marching, I'd be in the streets, kicking down doors and demanded respect. But we have to try to do it. The Gandhi, Ma-, Dr. King dignified way of watching and speaking in our minds and, and hoping someone listens. So we'll see.

S

Scott Lewis 15:07

Monday night seven o'clock First Unitarian Church, Queer Nation, be a part of the solution, not

a part of the problem.

L LuJack Tyler 15:16

All right. I am also here to talk about the GRPC a bit. We have a new president and a couple of brand new board members. Our president formerly was Terry Richardson. We now have a have a different type of President Pat Gandy.

S Speaker 1 15:35

Yeah.

S Scott Lewis 15:36

Who I marched beside in in the March tonight with Pat Gandy and Jean Arrington.

L LuJack Tyler 15:41

Yes, Pat is Pat as a piece of work. She walked in, just ready to take action. I mean, she's been a dragon spitting up fire from the minute they told her she wants to be president. And I'm very proud of that. Our Vice President is Norm Thompson, who care at the coordination banner tonight. And I also saw him at the Martin Luther King, one of the Martin Luther King parades on Saturday with Queer Nation. So I'm very pleased about that. We had unfortunately, we had two resignations, which were Dale Carpenter, and Brian [INAUDIBLE]. So we have two board seats now open a month after our election. So if anybody out there, who has been a member of the caucus are decides to be a member of the caucus and would like to take the responsibility of being a board member, I encourage you to be at our next meeting, which is the first Wednesday of next month at 2700 Albany in the same building as as emos [INAUDIBLE]

S Scott Lewis 16:37

Sounds like it's getting a little more liberal.

L LuJack Tyler 16:40

Uh- well.

S Scott Lewis 16:41

A little more liberal makeup.

L LuJack Tyler 16:44

I'm hoping so. It's, it's sad. When when individuals can't, can't negotiate, can't compromise can't, can't work together, but I would rather see a 21 year organization work hard on issues that we feel deserve to be worked hard on as gay and lesbian people then then for it to be stopped and divided and all the paparazzi that comes along with it.

S Scott Lewis 17:15

I did an interview with the Texas Triangle last week, I think it's going to come out next Friday and they asked me what what did I see as you know, one of the greatest problems facing the gay and lesbian community and I said I think it's the infighting the you know, there's there's such bigger fish to fry than each other. You know that we need to we need to work together not fight against each other that we need to channel those energies to a pat Gan- pat Robertson or a pat Buchannon and not a pat Ghandi that makes no sense to turn, you know our viciousness on each other, we need to channel those energies towards bigger, bigger enemies.

L LuJack Tyler 17:57

I agree, I agree. And I would much rather see the majority move forward. And let those that choose to whine, like like babies and wrestle with each other as pigs behind. Because we have big things that we need to do in 1969, when they took over, when they took to the streets and attack those who had been attacking them at Stonewall. That was our time to seize the moment. There have been many great things that have been done for the liberation of gay and lesbian people. And and I think that that's the caucus and with election [INAUDIBLE] and with the coalition's that are being built, this is our time in the city of Houston to take something for ourselves and be somebody for ourselves and actually demand that we be treated as human beings in this city. And then other cities will see that and then they'll start doing the exact same thing. We're the fourth largest city and we don't have a council person yet, who has spoken up on the Fred [INAUDIBLE] murder, and I find that discouraging-.

S Scott Lewis 19:12

City Council.

L LuJack Tyler 19:13

Yes.

∅ 19:13

They look stronger.

L LuJack Tyler 19:14

Am I- am I okay.

S

Scott Lewis 19:15

Felix Fraga. Felix Fraga came out the very first day and said completely unacceptable. And matter of fact, I saw him on the news two or three days in a row speaking out against- but there were only three people politically that I saw speak out and that was Sheila Jackson Lee. Felix Fraga and Jean Green. Okay, I stand corrected, but needs to be more than that. And so- And I was curious and I say this publicly now and and have no problem as I fought very hard to see him elected. Where was Jew Don Boney?

L

LuJack Tyler 19:50

I don't know. I don't know. And the caucus is holding a fundraiser on a on the 13th of February which Jew Don has been invited to come to speak at. 500 invitations will- will- will be sent out. And I'm hoping that before then he'll speak on it. And I'm also hoping that he'll accept the invitation. So if he doesn't speak on it 500 folks can ask him, why didn't he?

S

Scott Lewis 20:16

Yeah, cuz I'm a staunch Jew Don supporter and very respect him very, very much and was surprised to see that he was not the first voice that came screaming out of city council.

L

LuJack Tyler 20:32

Closing my little spill a bit. Have you heard about the community center for gays and lesbians that I read about?

S

Scott Lewis 20:40

I read about it.

L

LuJack Tyler 20:41

Exciting. That's exciting.

S

Scott Lewis 20:43

Something that's long overdue Houston needs. And I don't understand why- I don't know how long Mac was around Montrose Activity Center. And I don't know what, you know, the hills and valleys were that they, that made it impossible for them to accomplish getting a community center and it might be the same hills and valleys that we try to?

J

Jimmy Carper 21:06

Well, from, from my observation on that, that it seemed as though that the goals differed with MAC as to who the President was. And so there, there wasn't one goal that everyone could work towards, you know, we've seen that kind of happen with Pride Week now that there's an executive committee and people involved in it. But then back never had that. So I hope this new group does get that.

S

Scott Lewis 21:36

Wasn't the goal. To get a community center. To get a building?

S

Speaker 1 21:40

Everybody had a different idea about how to do it and ways going about getting to that point. And even as to whether they should own or rent or nobody could get it together.

S

Scott Lewis 21:56

You should never rent should you always own. Yep, nobody can take it away from you.

L

LuJack Tyler 22:01

Never, ever, ever, ever. It's part of gay nationalism. I love gay nationalism.

S

Scott Lewis 22:06

And I remember I was so excited when we came so close that I remember the building right back over here behind Wendy's that they rented or leased, purchased or whatever. And, you know, we were this club. We even had meetings there. That's where we attacked Chief Nucci after gate four the Congress met there. And but it didn't, you know, it didn't work out for whatever reason. I don't recall why. But I've always felt that that's such a necessity with the fourth largest city in this country. And there's no reason we should not have a gay and lesbian community center.

L

LuJack Tyler 22:37

Yes. A lot of exciting stuffs happening,

S

Scott Lewis 22:40

Busy, today is busy.

L

LuJack Tyler 22:42

Today was a busy busy, busy busy day. 1996 I went to the community inauguration of Jew Don Boney and Minister Robert Muhammad on the Nation of Islam stood up and he said that this is going to be a year of a lot of doing and a lot less talking. It was probably the only thing about his speech that I agree with with the exception of the fact that he also stood up and he recognized that Jew Don Boney was the only man who could get the Black Men's Association the Nation of Islam and Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus on the same stage endorsing him so I thought that that was kind of cute. But, but I agree that this is going to be a year of a lot more doing and and a lot less talking and a lot of folks have talked a lot- have talked enough. And I intend to be on the forefront of a lot of doing Scott I think it's time for some music my throat's dry.

S

Scott Lewis 23:35

All right, well, Lou Jack thank you we're gonna do little- our little lesbian sister Sandra Bernhard does an interesting little remake of Sylvester's You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real).

J

Jimmy Carper 23:53

Sarah Bernhard and you're hearing her on After Hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station Brian. And now we join Scott.

S

Scott Lewis 24:06

Sarah Bernhard.

S

Speaker 1 24:08

What did I say?

S

Scott Lewis 24:09

She's fabulous.

S

Speaker 1 24:10

Oh my god. What did I say?

S

Scott Lewis 24:12

He said Sarah Bernhard. [INAUDIBLE].

 Rob Nash 24:17

I wouldn't want to be in your shoes.

 Speaker 1 24:19

I am an old queen. What do you want?

 Scott Lewis 24:21

I have it on authority. You know because I'm on the inside circles. That she might be coming to town not to-.

 Jimmy Carper 24:27

Well those are pretty big circles girl just looking at them.

 Scott Lewis 24:30

Yeah well not as big as the ones under your eyes, bitch. Oh wait, wait wait a minute. Please.

 Speaker 1 24:37

Wait a minute here.

 Scott Lewis 24:39

You- you loaned me your luggage and you didn't even need it to go to Hawaii. You just carried your clothes under your eyes Jimmy just came back from Hawaii. He spends every birthday.

 Speaker 1 24:50

16 bucks. I leave it with you.

 Scott Lewis 24:59

Is she still reading me or she done?

L

LuJack Tyler 25:01

She is done.

S

Scott Lewis 25:01

What's with all this shit on the walls. I can't see anything. So anyway, we're at tonight now-.

L

LuJack Tyler 25:08

We'll just try to pretend that none of that didn't just happen. We have- Nothing happened sweeping under the rug. A great big pile of it.

S

Scott Lewis 25:18

Thank God she's a pretty girl.

L

LuJack Tyler 25:20

I think it's frozen up there.

S

Scott Lewis 25:23

[INAUDIBLE]

L

LuJack Tyler 25:25

Damn, this is gonna make they're gonna clean up on KPFT.

S

Scott Lewis 25:29

They just gave me during the government shutdown. So anyway, Christian Andreson's here, Rob Nash is here. And we're kind of the idea I had or the thought I had is that I've kind of gotten away from the responsibility that I feel that I have. And we have here to let our young listeners know which primarily we do have I think at least half if not 75% of our listeners are very young. And they are depending on us or looking towards us to be their gay outlet. They might not have the ability or the opportunity to go out to the clubs.

R

Rob Nash 26:08

Yeah.

S

Scott Lewis 26:09

Yeah.

R

Rob Nash 26:11

Legally.

S

Scott Lewis 26:11

They might try to get in with somebody else's ID like their brothers or something. But role, I think that we need to present and we have a responsibility to present gay role models to them. And I think that you two, are certainly gay role models. You are two men that have taken your dream and done something with it. You have done what you want to do as a gay man, and seen success from it.

C

Christian Andreson 26:39

Thank you.

R

Rob Nash 26:41

Thank you.

S

Scott Lewis 26:41

Rob.

C

Christian Andreson 26:42

You know what, but you too? You too? You? You? Seriously, no, seriously, Scott, you are more fun. I mean, I have never seen any kind of a concert that you've emceed or you've had a walk on for several celebrities. You always make it entertaining. You always make it fun. You always make it happen with.

S

Scott Lewis 26:59

Well thank you, Christian.

S

Speaker 1 27:00

She always makes it dirty.

S

Scott Lewis 27:02

Well, sometimes.

R

Rob Nash 27:04

There's a lot of love in the room. That's just beautiful.

C

Christian Andreson 27:06

No, no, seriously, though, but you're in with this group.

S

Scott Lewis 27:09

Thank you. That's so sweet. And I'll give you that 20 bucks. I promised on your way out.

C

Christian Andreson 27:13

It was 40.

S

Scott Lewis 27:18

Yeah, but you're supposed to throw in the skinny part for the extra 20 bucks. Oh. So anyway, Rob, you have your plays. And I have not seen your third one yet? Because you haven't sent me free tickets yet?

R

Rob Nash 27:30

Because it's not up yet. But honey, when it's up. When it's up. You're- I'm knocking on your door.

S

Scott Lewis 27:37

Tell me a little bit about Rob, how you come about writing a play. I mean, you where did this come from? And more importantly, how did you develop from somebody who has sit and sat down and written a play to someone who has a play? That's running months at a time in theaters? I mean, you don't run months at a time in theaters when you're selling tickets? Yeah,

R

Rob Nash 28:01

It was a mistake. Almost everything that's happened has been a big, huge fluke. Thank God. I was doing stand up. There are three people on the stand up roll there's you're on the stand up bill, there's the opener, the feature and the headliner, right. And I was finally getting to where I was going to feature. It was the Bush years it was the comedy bust. All the baby boomers were, you know, they weren't going out anymore. They didn't have any money anymore. The X'ers didn't have as much money to go out and cable market was choking everybody with really bad stand up on TV, killing all the clubs. And I was never ever going to move up. So I said, Screw this, I'll just bypass headliner and write a one man show so I booked I booked Curtains Theater, which is gone now God Rest in peace Curtains Theater, I booked that six weeks in the future, and wrote the show in six weeks and put it up. So as a complete and total mistake, none of this should have happened. It was just me being stupid enough to book something six weeks in the future and being scared enough to get up in front of people without something prepared that I actually wrote something that

S

Scott Lewis 29:01

Was in an instant success?

R

Rob Nash 29:03

Well, we it was the late slot. And it was no one knew what to expect. And so it pleasantly surprised the audience and me more than anyone else. And that's that's when it began to build. We brought it back during a regular slot A few months later. And that's when it just took off like gangbusters.

S

Scott Lewis 29:19

How long have you been doing it?

R

Rob Nash 29:21

It's '92 October '92 When we first went up, so you did the math?

S

Scott Lewis 29:24

And it was- that would be four- and you-.

R

Rob Nash 29:28

Very good.

S

Scott Lewis 29:29

And you started with 12 Steps or More Dysfunctional You.

R

Rob Nash 29:33

Which is actually playing right now at Stages one more weekend.

S

Scott Lewis 29:36

Which was marvelous. [INAUDIBLE] I hear it is good. I always want to call you Matt because your character in the play the young the young boy is Matt.

R

Rob Nash 29:46

And you just want to swat him, don't you?

S

Scott Lewis 29:48

Well no I just always envision you chasing them around the room.

R

Rob Nash 29:52

Late at night I dress up like Matt and I yell at myself in the mirror and I get really excited.

S

Scott Lewis 29:57

Because I've seen the young boys you chase around the room.

C

Christian Andreson 29:59

You sell tickets to that.

R

Rob Nash 30:02

What are you talking about?

S

Scott Lewis 30:03

But you- he has Rob has an incredible show he plays how many. seven characters six. six

But you he has now has an incredible show he plays now many, seven characters six, six characters that he plays all himself. And you can see each one he the changes are just the movement of a sweater into a scarf over the shoulders around the waist. But you and you almost don't even need that because you portray the character so incredibly. So I highly encourage anybody that hasn't seen it to go see it now. 12 Steps For a More Dysfunctional You is playing now. And the third installment, which is going to debut soon when

 Rob Nash 30:41

February 9. So next weekend, Friday and Saturday, eight o'clock, you can go to Stages and see 12 Steps to a More Dysfunctional You. And then February 9 through March 3, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Friday and Saturday at eight, Sunday at five. You can see 12 Steps Towards a More Dysfunctional You part three.

 Christian Andreson 30:56

Excuse me when is the matinee?

 Rob Nash 30:58

That would be that would be the five o'clock Sunday. Okay. And just call. That's 52-STAGE. So and that's a week from this weekend is when the new one opens? That's correct. From next weekend. Yeah. But there's a weekend off in between.

 Scott Lewis 31:14

Now, Christian, you. I met you in I guess it was '90, probably '91 or '92. And I was waiting tables at a and I don't know how the conversation got started. But you gave me a copy of your song of your cassette. Everybody Else.

 Christian Andreson 31:34

Where did you work with [INAUDIBLE]. Oh my god, by the Galleria? [INAUDIBLE]

 Scott Lewis 31:38

And you don't remember that?

 Christian Andreson 31:39

But yes I do. Yes, I do. I do remember now.

S Scott Lewis 31:42

And so we were and I was waiting tables, I waited on you. And we just got to gossiping and I was just you know, the big old queen doing my activist stuff. And somehow we got around to it, you gave me a copy of the cassette, it didn't leave my machine forever. I mean, that's how I just loved it. I was addicted to it. It's emotional. It's not a it's not the kind of song it's that I'm used to working in a club and stuff. I'm used to this formula music, you have your same beat. And you throw in a little sample of a vocal and you dance to it. And there's nothing behind it. It's very rare to find a song that has any meaning to it, this song. And you can tell it better than I this song came from deep within you. Which is why probably it touches people tell people the story behind Everybody Else.

C Christian Andreson 32:28

Everybody Else. Well, Everybody Else is a song that I dedicated to anyone who must face and fight prejudice on a daily basis. In order of dealing with their humanity. It means it goes for everyone who's human. I dedicated the song to those who are suffering from AIDS. I lost my manager, my first manager to AIDS. JC Perez, who's here in the studio with us tonight now is my manager right now. And I lost my best friend Steve Harris, Steve Harris was a famous photographer started off a man's career. Fun fact, the cover of everybody else's is a shot that he took of me on the stroke of midnight, New Years and 1991. And I remember him I remember him saying, okay, Christian, this has to be your single cover. And, of course, he died a year, about a year and a half later. I had been- God. so touched by by the virus. I mean, just good friends that I've had acquaintances that I've had people that I've worked with along the years, we have just been bombarded by this thing. And you know, it's bad enough that we're being bombarded with it. But even more so these wonderful people, when they get to the last stages of the virus, they can't go into restaurants, because people gawk at them. They can't shop in grocery stores. You know, they're they know, okay, they don't look so hot. Okay, and so people go, Ooh, what's wrong with them? And they stare and they gawk. And then from that, there comes a lot of prejudice. And then a lot of misunderstanding. And what I wanted to do with the song is I just wanted to make a statement, just to remember that we're all people that you know, we we all came from a mama and we all took steps and fell down. And through our lives we fall down. And okay, who beeped. [INAUDIBLE] Gosh you're so popular. Well, I have to talk about this after so many anyway, we were getting much two series. That's a sign. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, God. Back to the script. No. Anyway, I just wanted to dedicate the song to people who were having to deal with prejudice.

S Scott Lewis 34:47

Now how did you when you decided you wanted to make music first of all, what what made you decide you wanted to make music? What was?

C Christian Andreson 34:56

Well I originally was gonna go into opera. I used to love of competing and Junior High School in high school, actually, they gave me a purpose in life. I had a very traumatic childhood. I mean it I am lucky. Thank you God for getting me through my childhood, it was a disaster. And, and my music pulled me through if it hadn't been for competitions, like all region, choir and all state. I

mean, I live with a tape recorder and rehearsal music, eight to 12 hours. In fact, when I used to turn in my little reports to my choir teacher, she wouldn't believe, you know, that that I would have dedicated 12 hours of my day to my rehearsal music, but I would be champion, I made it all the way to national champion and in the world champion. For soloists, I was very, very competitive. I was very, very ambitious, because it gave me something to believe in. And when I went to Europe, I was about 16 years old, I was a soloist with the National Chorus. And I remember I was in Paris, France. And there was this beautiful theater, it sat about 250-300 people, I don't remember the name of it. But I used to go in the afternoons to this theater, and sneak in and play their grand piano and had a little pin spot on it. And I would sit there for about three hours and play. And I was starting to write music. And about three days went by, and I hear a clapping at the very back of the theater. And I think oh my God, oh my God, who is who has just been listening to me make a fool of myself. Because I've been writing this very emotional song to my parents. And anyway, this little tiny woman with a little brown sack lunch comes walking up to me and says that she has been listening to me for the past three days, and that my song had been helping her solve a problem. And she just wanted to let me know. And it was one of those moments in life where you just a little bell goes off and you're like, oh, okay, this is what I want to do. So from that point on, after I finished the tour in Europe, I started working on pop music. And here I am today.

S

Scott Lewis 36:57

Now, how did you go about getting your song on cassette? Is it something that you financed? Or?

C

Christian Andreson 37:02

Oh yeah, well, actually, it was a joint effort, people who believed in what I was doing invested money. I mean, it anyone who tries to get into this business knows it won't cost a lot of money. And very rarely do you ever break even. In fact, a lot of people ate the bill on this one, because a big portion 95% of the proceeds went towards AIDS. I felt very, very strongly about that went to private causes AIDS Foundation's because I wanted to help I wanted to give back to the community. And I just I didn't want to just give back with inspiration I wanted to give back financially, I think it takes both to really make an impression.

S

Scott Lewis 37:40

Both of you talk about or give them. What do you say to somebody? That I mean, you Christian, say you had a really rough childhood and you know, you have kids listening who can't you know, an image that stays in my head all the time is when I interviewed, somebody at HATCH for a TV show I was doing back in like '92 or '93. And the kid talks about listening to this show, on his clock radio under his pillow with his head pressed to his pillow so that he knew that nobody else would hear. Yeah, and that's an image that's always stayed with me. What do you say to those kids who are listening in, they're terrified that they're bad or that they're, you know, they're going to hell?

C

Christian Andreson 38:21

Hang on, hang on. And you won one of these days, you're going to laugh at all this. I mean, think back to, you know, in our own experiences. I mean, Mr. Nash worry about you. I mean, I laugh a lot of all the things that I went through even the horrible things I went through, I laugh being, you know, hung up on lockers, and, you know, I went through a terrible terrible time, I was a school fag for so long. You know, someone outed me.

 Rob Nash 38:48

I was a school fag too.

 Christian Andreson 38:49

Oh, and it's such a such a lovely little time.

 Rob Nash 38:52

All of seventh grade.

 Christian Andreson 38:53

So it God, God, it's painful, but, but you have to look at your life with a sense of humor. And there are many beautiful things that come in life. And you have to look forward to those things.

 Scott Lewis 39:07

And yeah, both are great examples going from the school fag to people who are successful Rob you have a wonderful-

 Rob Nash 39:14

Public image fag.

 Scott Lewis 39:16

And don't we look so good.

 Rob Nash 39:19

It takes some effort to look like this, though. I wish that there was something more that you could say to the people to the to the boys and girls right now listening to their clock radio pressed up against the pillow. I wish there was something more that I could say that hang in

there. You'll be out of your parents home soon. I wish there was more that I could say. But that's all I can think of is that if it doesn't change, if they don't change if the situation around you doesn't change, just just know that you'll grow out of the situation. And eventually we'll be able to get out and get on your own. But then, you know, these kids today they've got it a little bit easier than we had 10 years ago and-

 Scott Lewis 39:50

There's a lot more information

 Rob Nash 39:51

You and I had it a lot easier than there those 10 years before us and whatnot. So that's going on.

 Christian Andreson 39:57

You know what, though? I think it's a wonderful blessing. Because I know something that a lot of people don't I can feel things, you know, I look at being a gay individual sort of like being a hybrid. It's like you understand the masculine and you understand the feminine. And it's just it comes together and one piece of pie.

 Rob Nash 40:15

Oh you know how to accessorize.

 Christian Andreson 40:16

Oh God, that's for sure. But seriously, it's a blessing I really see as a blessing is the more that I learned about myself spiritually. I think it's a gift from God, I really do. And I have absolutely no shame in tying God into this because I know for a fact that he made me this way. I know, there is no question in my mind, and I'm grateful. God, I never thought I'd ever get to a point where I'd say, You know what I'd say I'm grateful that I'm how many of us have been asked the question, you know, if you could take that pill, if you could take that pill, and it's going to change you back. My mother's probably listening to this right now going, Oh, no. But there's some nice Jewish girl waiting for you.

 Rob Nash 40:56

I want to take a pill and get gay or that's what I want. Take me a gay pill.

 Christian Andreson 41:05

Ching, cha-ching? Yeah, no, but seriously, I It's a blessing. And to all those who are listening, and you're real frustrated, you're scared, who might find out, you know, life in anything is hard to get through. I mean, anything that you have to do that you I want to be able to say this well, but anything that is worth anything in life, there's going to be difficulty. And you will find that if you will be honest with yourself, and you will embrace who and what you are there, there is a reason why you are what you are. And there is a light at the end of that tunnel. You just have to keep looking to that light and go to your God with it. And ask him what does he want you to do? And he will deliver the answer to you. He did for me. God, I I hated myself. I was I was raised in a very religious home. And I was just like, oh God, how can I how can I just blaspheme you? How could I do this to you? And you know, I think what brought me through was the amazing people that would come into my life who were gay. And they set such a wonderful example. And, and they loved God. And it was like, hmm, it's just sort of set everything in motion for me.

S

Scott Lewis 42:17

Your homosexuality doesn't have to take your God away from you. Right? The people around you might try to but that doesn't have to be the case. Rob, you have 12 Steps to More Dysfunctional You currently playing at Stages, 52-STAGES. And that plays what through this next weekend?

R

Rob Nash 42:32

Next weekend.

S

Scott Lewis 42:32

And then?

R

Rob Nash 42:33

And then there's a weekend off and then on the 9 of February, we open 12 Steps to a More Dysfunctional Family part three. I can't wait.

S

Scott Lewis 42:40

And?

R

Rob Nash 42:41

Runs through the third of March.

S

Scott Lewis 42:42

52-Stages.

 Christian Andreson 42:43

Do you have discount tickets for family members?

 Rob Nash 42:46

No, but for you, Christian.

 Christian Andreson 42:49

Hey, you know what? We I haven't seen this guy in six years. We used to work together at Olive Garden at Westheimer.

 Rob Nash 42:58

Everyone- actually Christian has waited tables with everyone.

 Christian Andreson 43:02

I entertain.

 Rob Nash 43:04

At a very, very scary Italian restaurant that will go unnamed.

 Christian Andreson 43:08

Well, I just said it already a bread spit. Yes, it was the breadsticks that did it to us later.