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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Bobby, Tom Richards

J

Jimmy Carper 00:05

The following program contains language or images of a phrase or a sensitive nature which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised. Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and their friends. Hear 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 age 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. Hello, Houston and welcome to after hours queer radio with attitude and a special hello out there to College Station ke O 's College Station they're tuning in to us. Well, they tuned in about 12 minutes ago. It is 12. After the hour, it's 12 After nothing on Well, after nothing. Saturday, it's actually we come on at midnight. So we call it Saturday, July 22. And that's the addition of Yes. I'm Jimmy Carper. And on my right here is Bobby. Hi. Hey, Bobby and I are going to talk about a couple of different things. But before we get to you, Bob be the music that we heard women's music playing get good old folks that out voice I mentioned on there that I didn't have a whole lot of women's music to play after posting a playlist of all of the music I played for the month. And you know, next week, I got like half a dozen CDs from from you know. Yeah, different. Wonderful, wonderful. Wonderful. That last song was by Amy Simpson called memory. And it's it's good music. Good. Isn't that nice? Ghana. And before that Angela matar with from her album pleasure and pain that was just around the corner.

B

Bobby 03:34

I'm still kind of blown away by our last guest.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:36

Oh, I've got some horse music. Yeah, for the for the for ins in the show. Wasn't that really like

amazing?

B **Bobby 03:44**

Whoa, like sitting here and not being able to see her on this side of the thing from where I was sitting and listening to her. Yeah, and not realize, and it suddenly struck me. Oh my god, she's actually saying that live Yes.

J **Jimmy Carper 03:58**

Live. She's singing it singing that live. And it's like, if not as good or better than than the studio recording. I mean, this is just a remarkable woman. Came here all the way from Scotland. That's a long way. Yeah. Yep. She was visiting folks in Austin and just kind of drove over to Houston to do this show.

B **Bobby 04:18**

And my mother was an Irish woman.

J **Jimmy Carper 04:20**

And, you know, I was really impressed. And I know jewel was impressed. Yeah. And Jim was impressed. He was like, Dan, everybody in this studio.

B **Bobby 04:31**

We were all like, okay, she's coming back.

J **Jimmy Carper 04:34**

Yeah, no kidding. You know, I my mouth, my brain was mush because I've always admired her artistry and, and I know a lot of folks here had not heard her before, and your brain pretty much became mush too.

B **Bobby 04:50**

Okay, what do you say after performing? I know how

J **Jimmy Carper 04:56**

that was so wonderful. And JD Doyle was here that night. Last Last week, and he's sending her a copy of the tape because he he takes it at his house too. And he will be here next week,

because it's the fifth Saturday. Oh my God and you know what that means? It's music music. Yes, yes. Yeah. Music Night Music night he's gonna be providing most, if not all of the music. He also does stint on lesbian and gay voices every Monday night. Well, while he that he's not there every Monday night. They are there every Monday night. He is there every fourth Monday. He does the second hour. He does a whole hour of queer music extra he gets music from our past and some from our present mixes

 B Bobby 05:46

together. We got a whole bunch of stuff that I haven't heard played on here. Oh, that's

 J Jimmy Carper 05:50

right. And stuff you have never heard before period. He's He's He's really He's the guru. He is the guru. And I want to mention that Jim Saguenay will be here in the second half of the show with the leather lie. And he's got some guests that he's going to be talking to bears on the Bayou. Hairy hairy guys, hairy folk, hairy guys. Okay.

 B Bobby 06:22

I only from last week. Yeah. I only

 J Jimmy Carper 06:27

know Mesquite, right? i Oh, no. It's if you want to communicate with horse oops. Yeah, that's this is it? It would be horse blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. Where is it? It's off on it. Yeah, okay. You know, it should be right here. Here it is. WWW, W-cubed. Horse Dash randan r a n d a n .com. r a n d a n .com. So you can get music there. I'm going to try to get some music over at Globo so folks can just go over there and ask for it. And if you beat me to it, just ask ask Sally to get that music. And in the area of music, check and George from the previous show stopped by and he's on his way. In fact, right now this Yes. GARCH Scott Kirchner's sky bar right there on Montrose and Hawthorne that that at the top of that building 3400 Is that I believe

 B Bobby 07:40

that's okay. My colors. Yeah, yeah, it's

 J Jimmy Carper 07:44

3400 3400 3400 Montrose. He's up there sending tunes right and a lot of things oh, well see what they're doing over there. I don't want any anybody to stop listening to this show. However, over there, they've got a cover band going and then he you know they play for 15 and then he's on for 15 and he's he's pulling out the old favorite dance stuff and he dusted off some old records and he's up there he's he is set well you know

 **Bobby 08:12**

is you know how far you know when you start calling things old stuff and we're and we're talking disco is old but it's it's all yes it is sit there and go oh god

 **Jimmy Carper 08:27**

I know anyway, you know chicken George is just you know, one hunk of a guy and a lot of it is because he's just nice ya know? Nice he's nice yeah, nice is sexy nice sure very sexy very straight man. So you know don't Oh, you guys don't go running up there you know because you ain't get none but he's a nice guy anyway. Yeah. And speaking of nice guys, I hate to have a missive from Buddha

 **Bobby 09:00**

a lot of people just appreciate it that in Nam Yes. Yes. And

 09:03

guess what like nevermind Hello Jimmy and the gang I hope these goodies find you and the rest of your gang especially Chris wink Oh my enjoy and have a great show kitty cats yours Buddha Buddha who owns and runs and cafe Cafe vino he presides over chief cook and bottle washes and person of

 **Bobby 09:33**

no Emperor okay.

 09:35

Okay whatever. Cafe right over there on Montrose next Phoenix

 **Bobby 09:44**

Phoenix Yeah, mix. Cafe No,

 09:48

a little small place and eclectic little thing deals out great coffee great, great desserts and great dish.

 **Bobby** 09:58

They've got the most head on the The Bisons head on the wall.

 **Jimmy Carper** 10:03

I think it came with

 **Bobby** 10:04

no, no, no fruit of everything in the rock. Okay. And it's an eclectic look. It really is a lot of fun. We love it. It's a special place. All of the folks who are getting pushed out of the neighborhood by, you know, all those things congregate at a venue.

 10:29

Yeah, that's right. All of those folks, you don't have \$300,000 to spend. Thank you for your cardboard townhouse. Oh, my we're going there. Yeah, we're, we're always there. Let's see. I've got some things to talk about here. Tomorrow is a great great fundraiser because it's a fundraiser for the community center. Oh, call the queer community center that is located over 803 Hawthorne. This is going to be at reverse Italian restaurant 1117 Missouri Street. It's just kind of a laid back affair, you know, dinner. And and you know, drinks and, and talking. Yeah, food and silent auction and little things like that. Just gonna be a DJ there. It's 35 bucks, but hey, it's a fundraiser. It's gonna have a fundraiser. Yeah. Oh, yeah. Okay, so maybe it's not your definition of a gala. But it should be fun because it's for a good cause. And it's very affordable. And you don't have to wear a tux I love like, I'm going to wear a 101 temperature. Yeah. A casual resort

 **Bobby** 11:53

going down the street.

 11:55

No, no it Where are your best Houston summer attire and like the commercial says we don't take MasterCard or Visa or American Express or any other plastic. It's just cash. Sorry. But 35 bucks over at reverses. At 1117. Missouri, Missouri street tomorrow. 530 to nine. I'm gonna be there. I'm gonna be there.

 **Bobby** 12:21

Yes. And by the way, if if my friend Andrea is listening in Hi, boy.

J Jimmy Carper 12:28

Whoa, okay. Got her.

B Bobby 12:32

Friend of mine. Got you old friend.

12:35

Kiss Kiss mean it and Friday, Friday, Friday, Friday. Friday, I went to the pride appreciation party. Over at the community center. No. 803 Hawthorne, of course, we can't rabbet into mono. We can. It was just a fun thing that the pride committee puts on for people who have helped with the parade or I guess I was invited because I'm in media or something. But Jack, Jack Valinski was there, you know, and he's just looking real hot tonight. He was looking really not yet had that cap on backwards. And usually, you know, if it's over Dudley Yeah, well, you know, somebody over 35 I go over 25 I count. But it's work it was working on there. Just

B Bobby 13:24

some people who you know, after a certain age, there are some clothes you don't want to see him wear. But he

13:31

was looking good and had this t shirt that's kind of fit fitting the packs. You know, he's been working out, you know, pecs standing out there. And he couldn't have been cold. Because I mean, there's a lot of people there but but you know, there's that like nipple edge. They're getting a little good. And yeah, we're talking for a while talking about a lot of people, but it was a whole lot of fun. Oh, cool. And yeah, and Jack, who, like executive director of pride and also

B Bobby 14:03

gotta give the man credit. I mean, cuz, you know, I'm telling you organizing that bunch of, yeah. Craziness every year.

14:12

That's right. Yeah. And it's all volunteers. You know, so I mean, you got to ask people to do a whole lot of stuff. And they got to do it because they want to. Yeah, Jack also, of course, is executive producer of lesbian and gay voices right here. Mondays eight to 10.

 **Bobby** 14:33

Yeah, I very rarely ever get a chance to listen to that. Oh, fortunately, I'm usually something's usually going on and I'm not home. I do

 14:42

my best to tape it if I'm not going to be home. Yeah, but usually I hear a lot of it in the car. Is that I'm doing this go in there. And just like tomorrow night I'll be doing this going on there. Yeah, yeah, no. Let's take a break and play some horse music. Excellent. Yeah, most So it seems like you set them up like that would help

 **Bobby** 15:03

that, you know.

 **Jimmy Carper** 15:06

What are we going to be talking about later? Well,

 **Bobby** 15:10

one of the things I wanted to talk about is the gay one of the subjects that you don't hear a lot about the gay and disabled community. Yeah, I mean, they're out there. We have organizations that deal with some of those groups like the Rainbow Alliance for the Deaf. That's right, that, but you don't hear a lot about us. I mean, you know, everybody sort of has this cookie cutter image, Oh, yes. of who we are. And we have that cookie cutter image. And some of us don't fit that cookie cutter. Anybody who took one, look at me, even sitting down, would know that I don't fit that cookie cutter. You're right about that. And when I'm standing up and walking, definitely not. You know,

 16:04

we'll explain more about that. Yeah, after this song from horse off of her brand new album, called both sides horse with the Scottish chamber orchestra. And we played a couple of them last last week, and she did a couple more alive. This is one that struck me when I my first hearing of the of the CD, it's the last one on it. And I really kind of liked it called God's home movie. And you're listening to it on after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station

 **Jimmy Carper** 16:52

Yes, yes, Horse. Horse. I literally

 **Bobby** 16:55

do know the songs.

 16:58

Note. Yeah, I told you. Yeah. This is an incredible album, I'd say. It's live. And I usually despise live albums. But this is really, really good. Really good. And you can you know, there's no, there's no doubting that she's a lesbian. She doesn't have very many if any. Same gender lyrics. It's more gender nonspecific, but as you can tell that most of the crowd was female. Yeah. And they knew the song and yeah, it's like that on every one of their incredible. Yeah. Okay, Bobby, you. For those of you who those of you out there who don't know, Bobby hangs out here. After hours. And every time there's a low I drag him on a mic.

 **Bobby** 17:49

You know, he's so nice to be you.

 17:53

It's so wonderful to have someone to use like that. No, I mean, no, it's really is it's, you know, because there's always somebody's not showing up some guests doesn't show up. And this happens. And that happens and you need somebody and you need somebody and you certainly haven't been Yes. Oh, thank you. Love you know, for those of you who do not know Bobby, you may have seen him if you hang around the Montrose he is the guy with Spina Bifida. And that means that you walk funny. I walk

 **Bobby** 18:25

funny and short. The short. The short version is I walk funny. You walk

 18:29

with a huge limp and you walk with a walking stick. Yes. Oh, when's

 **Bobby** 18:34

tall, walking stick with a blue ball at the top. And they

 18:42

and also you wear a lot of silver jewelry? Yes. And including two finger claws. I mean, the

fingers are totally covered. Well, my 2am attitude to just say you're working on this then the third one. Yeah. And lots of rings and lots of necklaces and you've got long, curly black hair. slightly varying at the tap tempo and much silver around your neck, including a magnificent silver unicorn. I mean, I have coveted that ever since I first saw it

 **Bobby 19:20**

and my dad's Italian horn Ah,

 **Jimmy Carper 19:23**

yes, yes.

 **Bobby 19:24**

I never take that off. That's one of the pieces of jewelry I never take off.

 **19:28**

Good that was unfortunately that kind that that style was made a cliche in the 70s you know they were made in plastic you know this kind of stuff you know with squiggly horn Yeah.

 **Bobby 19:42**

You know with the whole pagan thing. Resurgence thing? You know I'm in style again.

 **19:52**

So you are not only you have spinal bifida and that is a birth defects

 **Bobby 19:57**

a birth defect. I was born With a gap in my spine where there was no bone over my spinal cord in the lower half in the lumbar region, which caused me to be at birth, paralyzed from the armpits down, which, wow, I didn't know that. Yeah, and I was. And I've had 18 operations, and lots of physical therapy, and all of that good stuff. And my parents refused to let me be anything less than as normal as I could possibly get. So they didn't treat me any differently than the other kids in the family. They adopted me. And, you know, they were doctors and they knew what they were getting into, in that, from that point of view. You know, disabled kid, okay, this is going to take a lot of work. Yes, it is. But you know, to their credit, they never once treated me as the disabled member of the family. You know, they were much older. Yeah. My

parents were in their early 40s. When they adopted me, all of my brothers and sisters who are their, their natural children are the closest one and age to me is 11 and a half years older than me, and you are and I'm 32. Okay. The My oldest brother is 49.



21:28

Okay, so your parents are deceased? Yeah, they're both



Bobby 21:31

gone. Um, but the well, the whole, the, the thing about it is as a kid.



J Jimmy Carper 21:42

Yeah, let's talk about that. As a kid, his kids are really cruel to each other.



Bobby 21:46

When there's a difference monsters.



J Jimmy Carper 21:49

Square queers know that.



Bobby 21:50

Yeah. I mean, yeah, the I was up until third grade, I was pretty much treated like everybody else, for the most part. But then kids really started paying attention to little details about me, that that they knew that they would notice and start making fun of them. And it was an everything from that, from that point to the point that I got out of high school was to put it bluntly, living hell. People say could not, it was it was physically impossible for I had friends who treated me like everybody on occasion. But people always looked at me, from the armpits down. Now I can walk and obviously those people who have seen me know I can walk, do walk and Ally walk a lot. If I stop walking, if I at this point, if I physically stop walking, I'll be atrophied, my, my, my every muscle in my body



J Jimmy Carper 23:10

will go. So you gotta you gotta keep exercising,



Bobby 23:13

now that I've began it, I have to keep going people. Whereas somebody else might take a year for their legs to stop working. If I sat in a wheelchair right now, and didn't walk for six months, I would have to learn how to walk again.



23:32

But you're not the type to do that. No,



Bobby 23:35

I refuse. I there's too much to be seen out there. There's too many people to meet. There's too much to do. And I knew I never until I moved to Houston. I never realized that I would ever be part of a community. You know that? Because when I was a teenager sad of being disabled, yeah, I was even I was under that. That that weird concept that everybody only gets one thing in life. No, no, no. I not only was I disabled but dang it. When I hit my teenage years. I found out I was gay. You know,



J Jimmy Carper 24:26

but you probably knew a lot from your you're just those other years. When people make fun of you how to handle or how to hide the gay thing?



Bobby 24:40

I did. I hit it to an extent. But I also I mean, I didn't come out and say I'm in squares a \$3 bill. I didn't say that to people. I did however hint at it a lot. I the only people and and people I didn't do it in my I didn't tell my parents until after I tried to kill myself twice.



J Jimmy Carper 25:07

So it wasn't because of your being disabled or because you were gay.



Bobby 25:13

I it at that point became a combination of things because I had a certain image of myself because I wasn't, I already was not like, other people I saw, you know, I didn't walk the same. I didn't, you know, I didn't act the same. You can't go into a closet about that can't go into a closet about you know, the minute I stand up and go across the room, people automatically know. Yeah, you know. And, to some extent that colored how I reacted around other people, how they reacted to me. People would treat me to some extent, people either avoided me because they thought I was a freak. Or they tried to be overly helpful. They, I remember falling down once when a door hit me, as I was going through a door 10 people trying to pick me up, that was lovely. I had to tell the 10 people, I can do this better. If you leave me alone.

J

Jimmy Carper 26:28

You know, I think that that's the thing that, that we we do. If you see someone who, who is disabled, and you know, I'm going to hold the door open, I'm going to do this, I'm going to do that. And and usually you're in the way because they have their own way of doing stuff. And if you do have to, it's like I didn't the door a certain way or

B

Bobby 26:51

I mean, I'm on a first name basis with every sidewalk because I'm

J

Jimmy Carper 26:56

sorry. Yeah, I'm sorry. That's not funny. Yeah,

B

Bobby 26:58

I've fallen the Oh, yes, it is. At this point, it is. I mean, I've fallen on every last one of them at least once, if not 20 or 30 times. And when that happens, I just tell people, okay, if you see me fall down, and I get back up again. Leave me alone. I'm fine. If you don't see me get up. I got three numbers for you. 911. Yeah, I, but as I was saying, round about teenage years, along came the whole gay-ish year. And then suddenly, that compounded the whole freak feeling. That was like, Okay, I've got two things.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:48

I've got a, you know, really ever.

B

Bobby 27:50

Yeah, you know, I really am a freak now. I mean, and this played into everything about my life, about how I am as open and as honest, as as you've known me to be at, you know, over these last several months, I did not go out of my way to open my mouth and say hello to people.

J

Jimmy Carper 28:18

Oh, I can't imagine that. You're so open and friendly. I don't.

B

Bobby 28:21

I couldn't. I was like, Okay. And then I always noticed people, the way people looked at me, there were some people who were looking at me and going, what's wrong with him? And then

they're the ones who were who, who I didn't want to approach because of the ones who looked at me that way. Because I was afraid they were going to think the same thing that the other ones thought that the ones who were confused. What are you telling me there are, you know, the ones who made fun of me? Yes. And then they're the ones that I didn't approach? Because I was afraid they would be like the ones who were openly making Oh, okay, you know, yeah, yeah, it's and, you know, and that played right into, right up through my short stint in college. I didn't go to college for very long. Dropped out the day my mom died. Oh, and because she was the only reason I was in college. But several things happened in the short time I was there. Yeah, I met other disabled people who went about their lives, you know, not giving a rat's, you know, about what other people thought and also met the first gay people I ever met. And, and that was kind of a cool thing. I didn't interact with these people very often. But when I did, it was like, there's somebody out there. I can talk to you know, and then I ended up here in Texas, that's way too long a story to get into. But I used to have a brother who lived here

J

Jimmy Carper 30:18

now. Well, I'll tell you from this end I feel when I'm when I look at a disabled person, there's, there's a, it's curiosity, like, what's wrong with this person. And then there is a barrier there because I don't know how to approach a disabled person to be a friend. I don't know how to do that, without them thinking that I might have some sort of weird fascination.

B

Bobby 30:53

I think for most of, you know, I've known I've suppose I've met more than my share of other disabled people. And I've, I'm at this point, and I think the consensus would say, talk to us. Simply open your mouth, say hello, and start a conversation. And you might find it and you'll find out that for the most part, we have we have the same we have the same emotions, the same feelings as other people. We just have to deal with issues it with different issues. Yeah, related to our disabilities. And

∅

31:49

the

J

Jimmy Carper 31:55

walking in and out of the community radio, folks, it's gonna happen. Yeah, but you know,

B

Bobby 32:03

I think it's, it's simply walk up to us say hello. You know, we don't bite.

J

Jimmy Carper 32:12

Okay. You have spinal bifida. And you've had that since birth. Right. And I have someone in the talk studio. Kaga who is older, and he has a disability that he acquired as an adult. And that, that that is Tom. Oh,

T

Tom Richards 32:35

an amputation. That was a that was of a machine where it was working. And,

J

Jimmy Carper 32:42

and what got amputated

T

Tom Richards 32:45

some fingers on the left hand, yeah, that that pretty well cut off. But, yeah, when I, when I first when it first happened to me, I had a lot of guilt feelings, but I also had a feeling that that not so much of pity, but of shame.

J

Jimmy Carper 33:08

You know, like, you're not a whole person or some right.

T

Tom Richards 33:11

Yeah. And there was. Yeah. And so I insisted on on artificial fingers. insisted on. Okay, I have to have them. Okay. There's no two two bits about I remember those. They were rubber. Yeah, that just gonna, and they cost several \$1,000. But I insisted on it. And after a while, I got to the point saying wait a minute. I don't really care. You know, because they would make my hand hurt terrible.