

"Different taste in jokes is a great strain on affection." ~ George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans)

PLANET PROCTOR • OCTOBER 25, 2020 • PLANET OCTOBER SURPRISE

# God Help Us!

**G**OD HELP US, BUT HALLOWEEN IS IN lockdown for 2020! Here's a real treat you can enjoy without opening your front door. Thanks to some virtual streaming tricks, **God Help Us!**, the comedy I co-wrote with **Samuel Warren Joseph**, will be available in your home on October 31, beginning at 4 p.m. PDT – live from three cities around the world!

We are doing the show virtually with **Ed Asner** in Los Angeles. The actress playing Randi is **Jordan Coley**, an EPIC member and Piven graduate in Evanston; and **Michael Shannon** will be playing Larry from Australia, where he is presently filming.

**October 31**

Online production and fundraiser  
**PIVEN THEATRE** in Evanston, Ill.  
with **Ed Asner**, **Jordan Coley**  
and **Michael Shannon**

Directed by **Mitch Levine** • Produced by **Liza Asner**

7 pm EDT • 6 pm CDT • 4 pm PDT

Tickets \$22 at [piventheatretix.com](http://piventheatretix.com)

**CLICK FOR TICKETS**

[www.piventheatre.org](http://www.piventheatre.org)

The broadcast is a fundraiser for the **Piven Theatre** and a premium ticket entitles you to a post-show chat with the cast.

For more information click the link in the box above.

## HELP YOURSELF

**Ed Asner**, **Jordan Coley**, and **Michael Shannon**  
(from top) star in 'God Help Us'  
on Halloween 2020, 4 p.m. PDT



"Thinking about profound social change, conservatives always expect disaster, while revolutionaries confidently anticipate utopia."

~ Carolyn Heilbrun

## Camus on COVID

**“I**N THE MIDST OF HATE, I FOUND THERE WAS, within me, an invincible love. In the midst of tears, I found there was, within me, an invincible smile.

“In the midst of chaos, I found there was, within me, an invincible calm. I realized, through it all, that ...

“In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer.

“And that makes me happy. For it says that no matter how hard the world pushes against me, within me, there’s something stronger – something better, pushing right back.” ~ *Albert Camus*

“Never interrupt someone doing what you said couldn’t be done.” ~ *Amelia Earhart*

## Far out

*A letter to the LA Times from Patrick Dempsey, Granada Hills, reads:*

**“T**HE FAR LEFT, which has gradually taken over most of the organs of opinion and the **Democratic Party**, has decided to resurrect its lost and beloved Soviet Union in the United States. It is frantically trying to dismantle the old culture of capitalism and freedom and replace it with an all-powerful people’s republic of wealthy elites lording over a permanent subclass of subservient proletarians.

“Those of us who haven’t been too busy or brainwashed to notice this are simply trying to fight back, that’s what’s going on.”

*(Now, correct me if I’m off here, but isn’t that kinda what we already have under the Republican regime? Anyone? Bueller? Putin?)*

“Never miss a good chance to shut up.”  
~ *Will Rogers*

## The inside ‘Dope’

**T**HE FIRESIGN THEATRE AND STAND UP! Records are soon to present a new double-LP compilation, including 83 minutes of previously uncollected funny bits from the group’s notorious “**Dear Friends**” Radio Show from 1970 to 1972 – a freewheeling demolition derby of surreal comedy seen through the subversive lens of Nixon-era Los Angeles freeform radio.

The record will be Firesign’s first new vinyl release in 35 years, since **Eat or Be Eaten** in 1985 and contains 34

tracks spread over four record sides, lovingly produced by our longtime collaborator and archivist, **Taylor Jessen**.

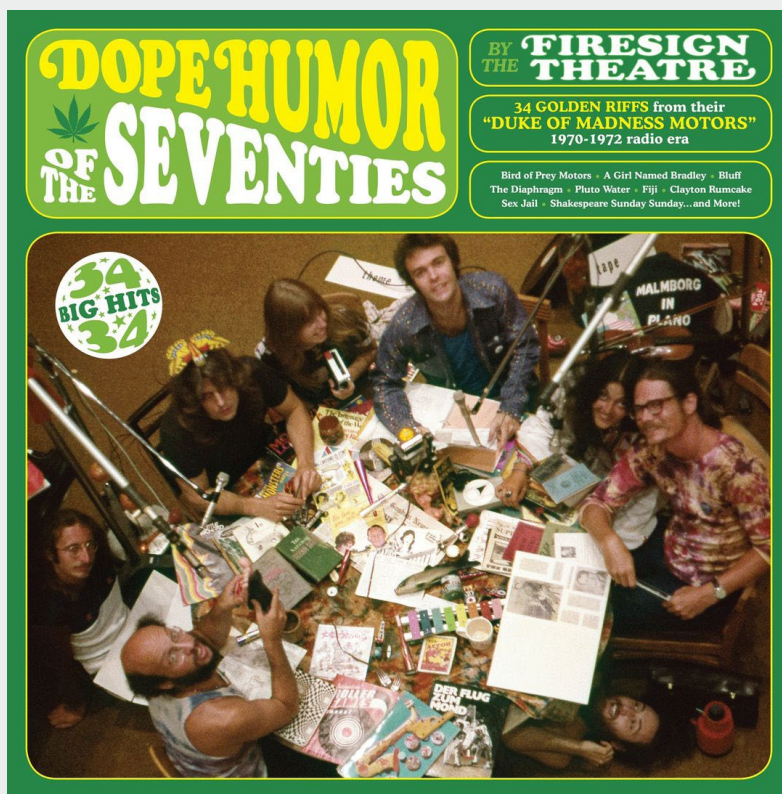
Furthermore, the download version of the record is greatly expanded and includes 46 tracks totaling two hours 23 minutes. Customers who buy the download directly from Stand Up! Records will also get a 56-page PDF which includes scans of scripts used in the original radio broadcasts.

**Dope Humor** goes on sale Friday, November 27 and will be available for order directly from **www.StandUpRecords.com** and from better record shops everywhere.

Images are available for download from **FIRESIGN’S WEBSITE** and **Dave Ossman** and I are available for interviews through **Jeff Abraham** at **JEFF@JONASPR.COM** – and direct inquiries to **ORDERS@FIRESIGNTHEATRE.COM**.

And we’re sad that our producer, **Bill ‘Billiam’ McIntyre**, just passed away.

THROUGHOUT  
THE ‘PLANET,’ CLICKING  
**DARK RED TYPE**  
OPENS A RELATED  
INTERNET LINK.



“Certainly, stay home unless you absolutely have to.”  
~ *Mark Peterson, WNDU-TV, South Bend, Indiana*

## Hurry for Hollywood (Squares)!

**H**ERE IS A SAMPLING OF SOME FAVORITE responses from some of the unsquare square-fillers on the long-running game show. According

■ **CONTINUED**



to Wikipedia, "The show piloted on NBC in 1965 and the regular series debuted in 1966 on the same network. In 2013, *TV Guide* ranked it No. 7 in its list of the 60 greatest game shows ever."



**Paul Lynde**

*It is the most abused and neglected part of your body, what is it?* – "Mine may be abused, but it certainly isn't neglected."

*Do female frogs croak?* – "If you hold their little heads under water long enough."

*When you pat a dog on its head, he will wag his tail. What will a goose do?* – "Make him bark?"

*According to Ann Landers, what are two things you should never do in bed?* – "Point and laugh."

*Paul, what is a good reason for pounding meat?* – "Loneliness!" (The audience laughed so long and so hard it took up almost 15 minutes of the show!)

### **Charley Weaver**

*Charley Weaver, which of your five senses tends to diminish as you get older?* – "My sense of decency."

*Charley, you've just decided to grow strawberries. Are you going to get any during the first year?* – "Of course not, I'm too busy growing strawberries."

*If you're going to make a parachute jump, at least how high should you be?* – "Three days of steady drinking should do it."

### **George Gobel**

*True or False, a pea can last as long as 5,000 years?* – "Boy, it sure seems that way sometimes."

*What are 'Do It,' 'I Can Help,' and 'I Can't Get Enough'?* – "I don't know, but it's coming from the next apartment."



### **Rose Marie**

*In bowling, what's a perfect score?* – "Ralph, the pin boy."

### **Don Knotts**

*You've been having trouble going to sleep. Are you probably a man or a woman?* – "That's what's been keeping me awake."

*"Asked a librarian for that book on Schrodinger's cat and Pavlov's dogs; she said it rang a bell, but she didn't know if it was there or not."* ~ **Spider Robinson**

## **Bear with me**

**T**HE NATIONAL PARK RANGERS ARE ADVISING hikers in Glacier National Park and other Rocky Mountain parks to be alert for bears and take extra precautions to avoid an encounter.

They advise park visitors to wear little bells on their clothes so they make noise when hiking. The bell noise allows bears to hear them coming from a distance and not be startled by a hiker accidentally sneaking up on them, which might cause the bear to charge.

Visitors should also carry a pepper spray can just in case a bear is encountered. Spraying the pepper into the air will irritate the bear's sensitive nose and it will run away.

It is also a good idea to keep an eye out for fresh bear scat, so you have an idea if bears are in the area. People should be able to recognize the difference between black bear and grizzly bear scat. Black bear droppings are smaller and often contain berries, leaves, and possibly bits of fur. Grizzly bear droppings tend to contain small bells and smell of pepper.

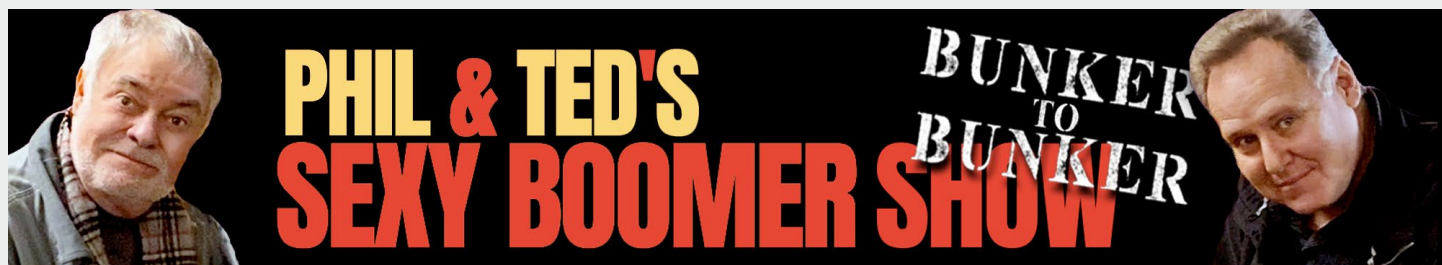
*"Humans love to say,  
'We've always done it this way.'  
And that's why I have a clock on my wall  
that runs counter-clockwise."*  
~ U.S. Navy Rear Admiral **Grace Murray Hopper**

## **Later ...**

**Y**OU HEARD ABOUT THE JEWISH MAN WHO WAS dying in his bedroom? His children are by his bedside and his wife is in the kitchen cooking a big brisket.

The dying man smells the wonderful aroma coming from the kitchen and asks the kids to bring him some of the brisket. The kids go to the kitchen and return saying, "Mama says it's for after."

*"I have yet to hear a man ask for advice  
on how to combine marriage and a career."*  
~ **Gloria Steinem**



## 'Bunker to Bunker'

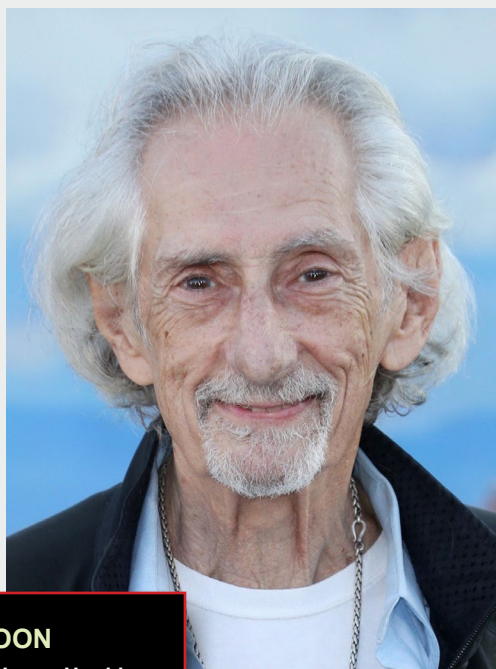
**P**HIL & TED'S SEXY BOOMER SHOW WILL launch 12 sexy episodes this spooky month, featuring unconventional conversations and comedy in Hollywood's first entertainment/talk podcast that speaks to the underserved and fast growing 50+ age audience.

Produced by **Radio Pictures, Inc.**, Phil and Ted's Sexy Boomer Show's guests so far include actors **John Goodman** and **Kevin Pollak**, magician **Penn Jillette**, comedians **Melanie Chartoff**, Firesign Theatre's **David Ossman**, Radio hosts **Thom Hartmann**, **Phil Hendrie** and **Harry Shearer**, and music greats **Weird Al Yankovic** and **DEVO's Gerald Casale**.

And future guests will include **Bill Boggs**, longtime Firesign booster and author of *Spike the Wonder Dog*, **Jamie Alcroft** and **Danny Mann**, **Larry Hankin** and **Paul Wilson**, and Low Moan's **Alan Shearman** and Antaeus' **Anna Mathias**, among others.

### COMING SOON

Future guests include Larry Hankin, above, and Bill Boggs.



They all share funny, formerly unheard stories about their careers and lives (including coping with COVID cabin fever), and the show includes rare funnies from The

Firesign Theatre – as Ted and Phil have collaborated for three decades on live, produced and syndicated comedy programs, featuring **Proctor & Bergman**, for national radio and television outlets like NPR and A&E.

As Boomers rapidly embrace podcasts, a vast opportunity is opening for advertisers seeking this lucrative audience.

For more information, email **INFO@RADIOPICTURES.COM**, call 310-394-5000, or visit our website at **SEXYBOOMERSHOW.COM**. And STAY TUNED!

"Beauty is only skin deep,  
but ugly goes clean to the bone."  
~ **Dorothy Parker**

## Too true

**O**NE DAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TELL YOUR grandkids that you survived the Great Toilet Paper Shortage of 2020. Can we all agree that in 2015 not a single person got the answer correct to the question "Where do you see yourself five years from now?" If you wanna know what God thinks of money, just look at the people he gave most of it to.

Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere. It makes your heart race and changes you forever. We call these people cops, so when one door closes and another door opens, you're probably in prison. Maybe the worst time to have a heart attack is during a game of Charades. There's nothing scarier than that split second when you lose your balance in the shower and think "Oh shit. They're gonna find me naked."

Being popular on Facebook is like sitting at the cool table in the cafeteria of a Mental Hospital. They say marriages are made in Heaven. Then again, so is lightning and thunder.

■ **CONTINUED**





## Loners

**DEBS**  
**TINY TIM**  
**CREAMY**  
**MAGIC MAZE**  
**RUGRATS**  
**KEITH**  
**BLOW**  
**NO SHITT**  
**ALL WHITE**  
**VOTE HAM**

This “killing them with kindness” thing is taking way longer than I expected, but you come from dust and to dust you will return. That’s why you shouldn’t dust; it could be someone you know.

*“It can only be attributable to human error.”*  
 ~ HAL 9000

## Donors

**M**Y DARLING wife **Melinda Peterson** for all the feminist quotes, **Baba Mail** for some jokes and **Kelly Hollis, Sam Joseph,**

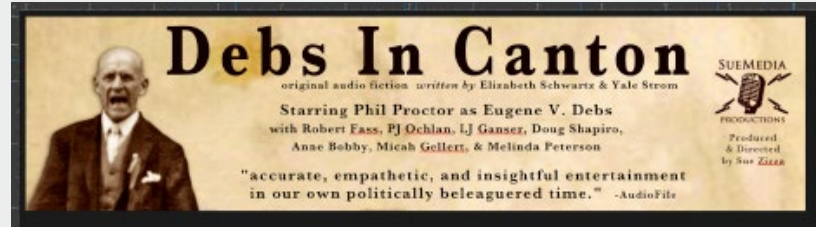
**Elaine Bonnitt, Sue Zizza, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Steve Radio Ranger Donofrio, Bill Kates, Mitch Levine, Allison Barenbrug** – and **Kristin Campbell**, for her brilliant work on the “Sexy Boomers” and other sites.

*“To multiply the harbors does not reduce the sea.”*  
 ~ Emily Dickinson

And **HERE’S THE LINK** to **Bad President**, starring **Eddie Griffin, Jeff Decker, Stormy Daniels** and featuring **ME**, or someone like me... **VOTE THEM OUT!**



*“Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.”*  
 ~ 14th Dalai Lama



## Debs in Canton

**“T**HIS WELL-PRODUCED RADIO DRAMA BY **Elizabeth Schwartz and Yale Strom** from **SueMedia Productions** — complete with the ambient sounds of trains, tavern chatter, and the clink of a cell door, as well as tunefully performed rounds of song— contextualizes the personal and political time leading up to socialist activist **Eugene Debs’s** final speech in Canton, Ohio, and his arrest for sedition in 1918. **Phil Proctor**, as Debs, sounds appropriately gruff and gentle, by turns. The supporting cast of **Robert Fass, P.J. Ochlan, L.J. Ganzer, Melinda Peterson, Doug Shapiro, Anne Bobby** and the very young **Micah Gellert** are equally compelling and engaging. This audiobook provides accurate, empathetic, and insightful entertainment in our own politically beleaguered time.”

– F.M.R.G. © AudioFile 2020, Portland, Maine

Check out the **DEBS** audiotape.

*“If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.”*  
 ~ George Orwell

## Lines of the times

**A** LONG LINE OF VOTERS WAS STANDING OUT in the drizzle in rural Georgia. A guy pulled up in his car, rolled down his window and asked, “How long have you been waiting?” And a woman yelled, “Four years!” The crowd cheered...

*“I regret nothing, says arrogance;  
 I will regret nothing, says inexperience.”*  
 ~ Marie Von Ebner-Eschenback (1830-1916)

*“It’s not the ups and downs that make life difficult; it’s the jerks” ~ Charlie Chaplin*

Visit the new **FIRESITE** and the old **BOOMERS**  
**HOME • FORTUNE COOKIE • RIGHT WING UNCLE • MERCH**

To add someone to the Planet Proctor mailing list, **CLICK HERE.**

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