

Jeff Around Town – July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Otis:** It means we're going around town. Jeff Around Town. Jeff.

**Jeff:** Good morning.

**Otis:** How are you?

**Jeff:** Well Otis, you know the hosts here at KVNO bring our listeners some of the greatest music as we've just been listening to, as a matter of fact. Well, if you've ever been up late, Katrina Naraine here at KVNO hosts Nocturnes.

**Otis:** Host of Nocturnes.

**Jeff:** Yes, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Thursday, 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. Sundays. She has such a soothing voice.

**Otis:** I'm a big fan.

**Jeff:** I am too. She has a great voice. And, of course, relaxing music to go along with that wonderful voice. But here's the thing. She's also an incredible musician in her own right. So, Otis, I'm going to let those of you who are listening now in on a little secret. You can hear Katrina performing great classical music and even some modern pop songs in person. And here's the thing. As well, Otis, as you know, she's so good she could easily be playing in a concert hall and selling tickets. And I'm sure one day she will. But right now you can still catch her act for free. So, Otis, are you a big shopper?

**Otis:** I'm not, but we're talking about this. We'll go to Von Maur and get on the escalator. And if it's the right season or the right time of day, the piano is playing there.

**Jeff:** Yes.

**Otis:** A wonderful artist at the piano. And one of the wonderful artists who occasionally sits at that piano, right?

**Jeff:** Is Katrina in person. And, well, as a matter of fact, and it is right there by the escalators. And there are six pianists in total who rotate. One of them is longtime Omaha musician Robert Glazer. And Katrina performs anywhere from 12 to 16 days per month. And although Katrina took some piano lessons as a kid, she didn't seriously begin studying music until college, which is incredible because when you hear her, it sounds like she's been at it since day one.

**Otis:** I was surprised to learn she hadn't started earlier.

**Jeff:** Yeah.

**Otis:** And so good.

**Jeff:** Well, and she's she is so dedicated. She practices three to four hours a day and it really shows. So, while I was there, she played a Chopin piece and another work by Debussy. And

Otis, as much as the music was calming, it was also relaxing watching the shoppers, as you were alluding to earlier, gliding up and gliding down the escalators as she was tickling the keys. And I saw one young man who was going up. He was leaning on the escalator as he went up wide eyed, keeping his eyes on Katrina the whole way up. And then I saw another dad who paused with his young daughter, and he was kind of shushing her and they paused for just a few moments and they were watching her and it was just as joyful to watch them watching her. One person I spoke to, Jane Timmerman, took a moment to sit on. They have the sofas there. You know, I don't know if you can relax and take a nap, but you can sit down and hang out for a minute. And she had this big smile on her face and she said, the music is just magical. And so it's not just Chopin and Debussy that she performs. She was saying that she does, you know, some more modern works. When she plays Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen, she can hear people singing up the other floors.

**Otis:** It's such a wonderful thing. Oh, it's great. Really. And I, you know, this is really, you know, it's Jeff around town, but it just reminds me, you bringing up Katrina playing there. It's just a bygone era. It's something I remember from my childhood. I guess you'd call it public music where there are musicians in public spaces.

**Jeff:** You were mentioning Kansas City, so I wasn't familiar with this.

**Otis:** Oh, the Muehlebach. You'd go to the lobby of the Muehlebach Hotel and there'd be a pianist playing. Oh, well, very upper class back in those days. Harry Truman might be in the lobby.

**Jeff:** I love it. I love it.

**Otis:** Well, this is how old I am. But no, it's just, it's just wonderful to have her playing there. And I'm just, as I said, a big fan. She's so good.

**Jeff:** She really is. So, again, if you're if you're up late and you can't sleep, well, Katrina's show on KVNO is the perfect thing to keep you company and maybe help you drift off to sleep. And if you're up in the daytime and you need to get in some shopping, well, and if you find yourself at Westroads, there you go. You can hear Katrina. And here's the other thing, Otis, if you can't get there in person for whatever reason or maybe you're listening from we have a lot of listeners from outside the Omaha area. Well, the great news is we took some video that we are going to post online here in a few days on the blog. Scherzo, the host blog at KVNO. So, watch for that early next week. Pay attention to the socials. We'll talk about it on air. So KVNO.org, that'll be posted.

**Otis:** I look forward to that. Thanks for the update on Katrina. I don't get to run into her very much. Well, she's doing nocturnes.

**Jeff:** She's doing nocturnes.

**Otis:** And I'm doing morning. But great update. Thanks.

**Jeff:** Thanks, Otis.

**Otis:** Jeff Around Town. Katrina Naraine. As I said, I'm a big fan. Catch her right here on KVNO.