



Transcript of [Eddie Lama, star of *The Witness* and founder of the Oasis Sanctuary](#), May 1, 2002.

Lauren: This is a really exciting show for me. We're going to be interviewing Eddie Lama. For those of you who don't know this incredibly inspiring person, he is the star of [The Witness](#), which is a documentary about one man's journey to animal rights, his epiphanies around animal rights. Definitely suggest checking out that video. We'll give you information about how you can get it, order it, and maybe get it at your local library.

Also, Eddie founded [Oasis](#), a sanctuary for people and animals. This is a very unique sanctuary because it really is for people and animals, people in various stages of recovery, and also an adoption centre where they take care of many different animals.

He also created the Faunavision. We'll talk more about that creation, a mobile activist van that can show pictures and has a verbal quality about it as well.

So I'm really looking forward to talking with Eddie. I think this will be a fantastic interview.

...

Lauren: Thank you very much for being on Animal Voices today, we're really happy to talk with you.

Eddie: Thanks for asking me.

Lauren: For people who are unfamiliar with *The Witness*, maybe we could start there, talk a little bit about the creation of that film and your involvement, and maybe a brief overview of how you came to animal rights, and thinking about these issues, and how *The Witness* came to be.

Eddie: First of all, I had nothing to do with *The Witness* at all except that I was the subject of the documentary. It was producers/directors James LaVeck and Jenny Stein from Tribe of Heart who put the film together. They were on a journey to

compassion themselves, animal compassion, and they wanted to use their talents to help the animals. They were looking for a subject to help convey that message and they thought my life, my evolution into animal consciousness was interesting since it came later on in life, basically at middle age. I'd never had an animal in my life. Going from 0 to 60 overnight was a good subject for them, and hence, *The Witness*.

Najda: And how did that come about, that consciousness from 0 to 60? What was your epiphany?

Eddie: In a nutshell, I was smitten by a kitten. Really the vehicle for that was my lesser self [laughs] because I had ulterior motives. Let me make it clear — there was this woman that had come up to me and asked me if I would hold this kitten for her that she had found, and I graciously obliged her. She was a very pretty woman and I figured I'd get a date out of the deal.

So I held onto this cat, held onto this little critter, and a bond developed beyond my wildest dreams. Because all the myths of animals and all the misconceptions of animals just fell by the wayside. I saw this animal as more than an ambulatory organism. This animal did indeed have rights. She had likes, desires, wants, predilections. She felt pain, she felt joy, she played. She was more complex than just a biological entity. Her emotions were very clear to me.

Then one day I saw her yawn, and I always attributed a yawn just to humans. I saw many more similarities than differences between humans and animals. I couldn't deny that, I couldn't say no, she doesn't have these things, because she did. I'm not a scientist, I'm not an ethologist, I'm just a casual observer, casually observing an animal. You have to come to that conclusion, that they do indeed have feelings and emotions, and have a thinking process.

And they can certainly suffer. I accidentally stepped on her tail and she let out a yelp, a howl. These simple things, things like that, just escaped me. She can do this, she can suffer this... And that sentience, that whole thing that I attributed to the cat, began to be applied to other animals. Mainly farm animals, animals that I was eating.

I couldn't deny that animals like a pig that's been confined and subsequently had his or her throat slit wouldn't be happy about it. It's obvious, especially now at the sanctuary we have, you observe animals in their natural milieu, that they prefer freedom. When we have a sick animal and we have to put him in confinement for his or her own benefit, they're not happy. They prefer to get out. They know what's better. They prefer freedom over confinement, and they prefer pleasure over pain.

[laughs]

Najda: It's interesting that you opened yourself up. Because a lot of people, once they have an animal in their life, will label themselves an animal lover and will certainly have a bond with that animal and see that animal as an emotional being. But a lot of people don't make the next step then, and open themselves up to, as you said, farm animals and animals that they eat. So it's interesting that you went right through that whole process.

Lauren: There's a moment in *The Witness* that I love when you're talking about about petting one of the cats, and someone invites you for dinner?

Eddie: Yeah, my brother. That was Bagel. Rest in peace, we lost him this year — he's in cat heaven. In memory to him we named our newest high-tech, state-of-the-art travelling audio-visual vehicle, the Faunavision III, we called it the HMS Bagel. For his meowjesty's ship. And we have his picture on there. [laughs] Rest in peace.

Lauren: Good commemoration.

Eddie: He indeed was the catalyst to me becoming vegetarian.

Lauren: You said you were feeling Bagel's leg?

Eddie: Yeah, his hind leg.

Lauren: And you were thinking, this is like a chicken leg.

Eddie: Exactly. Even the shape and everything. I held his leg, and it looked like the drumstick I was holding.

Lauren: So it was I guess an important moment for you.

Eddie: It was an epiphany, a moment of clarity that people have in life.

Lauren: I was wondering if we could talk about the title, "The Witness". I don't know if you had any involvement with title?

Eddie: I had no involvement with that. That was Jim and Jenny.

Lauren: Does it resonate with you at all? What does the idea of "witnessing" something mean to you?

Eddie: Witnessing is important. Different humanitarian organizations and animal organizations do just that, they witness and they report. To witness something is

to acknowledge its existence, the reality of it. So I guess the producers saw the title as fitting in this case because my awakening, also one of my epiphanies came through a video that I was watching. I saw animals being slaughtered. I was invited to someone's basement early on in my animal consciousness. I don't think I was a vegetarian yet, but I certainly was an advocate for the fur bearers. That was my first connection with the animals: since my cat was a fur bearer, I protested against fur.

So that was my first area of caring. But when I saw these animals in traps, and in factory farms, it was the first time I "witnessed" something. And that's what catalyzed me to do something about it, because witnessing is one thing, and doing is another. I think compassion would have to have both of those elements: to witness and to act.

Lauren: During I think it was AR 2000, Animals Rights 2000 in Washington, I think they debuted *The Witness* there? You were also interviewed along with the Tribe of Heart folks. I remember just feeling when I watched it that I wanted to get a copy for everyone that I knew that wasn't interested in these issues or didn't think they were important, or maybe just hadn't been exposed to them yet. Because what's so fantastic about this film, there's many different things, is that it starts from the position of somebody who is maybe not interested themselves, and there's no sort of soapbox preaching or anything like that, sort of an average person talking about how they came to think about these ethics and these animals, and I just thought, wow, it's really great to see someone start at the beginning. And so many times when people say to me, "I could never be vegetarian, I could never be vegan", I just think, I was there too. At one time I thought I could never give up any of these things. It's wonderful just to see the journey and the process, and I think it's so well documented in this film.

Maybe we could shift our conversation to Faunavision, because that seems to tie in with the idea of witnessing and showing people. Can you talk about the creation of the Faunavision and what that is?

Eddie: Faunavision was created out of a need. I was frustrated when I first viewed these horrible footage of animals suffering, and I really lamented the idea that nobody would ever see these things, except in somebody's basement, one at a time. I think mass exposure was very much needed, but as you know, many industries that control billions of dollars, their interest is not with the animals, so it probably wouldn't be playing at a theatre near you any time soon, or being shown on prime-time TV. So out of this frustration, Faunavision was born.

What I decided to do is I converted one of my old vehicles, a van that we use in

construction (I'm a contractor by profession, by trade) and to get the message out there via video. The same videos that I saw, I needed to bring it to the street. So I outfitted this old van with a TV set and speakers and made it look halfway decent. And we went out there, blimping in the streets of New York city, and it was beautiful because now thousands of people in a two hour span, two or three hours that we go out every night, become witnesses. [laughs]

And you can never deny it once you see it. Just because someone sees it doesn't mean they're going to change, but I think it's important to give everyone another perspective, that they may never get. And they make their decisions based on that. And for the most part people are appalled at what they see, people shake their heads, and we get a lot of positive reaction from it. Of course you have your occasional nay-sayers, but since the advent of Faunavision the "heckler factor" has dropped dramatically compared to conventional methods of activism like placards and posters and chanting, which is all good but I don't know if this day and age that works very well. To me it's anachronistic and it had its place maybe in the 60's. But this is the day and age of the moving picture and sight and sound, and Faunavision really does a good job at doing that, carrying the message. A picture says a thousand words, and a moving picture in colour with surround sound [laughs] says a million. Puts you right there with it.

Najda: I wonder if you can talk about how people react emotionally. I imagine some people get very upset and very shocked by what they see, and for some people that will make them very angry, angry at the industry and angry at what's happening to these animals. But do people also get angry at you for forcing them to see these images when they don't want to and they want to keep blinders on and not have to admit the realities of these things? Do people direct their anger towards you?

Eddie: We've had little of that, but it does happen. There is a phenomenon, and I've lived through that, in my days of being in denial and not wanting to know. What did one of my friends say one time — we brought him up to Oasis, that's our animal sanctuary, and he was by no stretch of the imagination vegetarian, or any animal consciousness at all. And by the time he left we showed him some videos, and he hung out with the animals and this and that, and he turned around and told me at the end of the day, "Damn it, you've enlightened me!" That says it all. [laughs]

And that's sometimes what happens out in the street. What happens too is you're forced to question your own ideas, your current values, and that of your families, and your generation, and your own human race. Who wants to do that? Who

wants to do deep self introspection? Not many! [laughs] Because it opens up a lot of questions.

Lauren: Is there an opportunity for people to come and interact with you and ask you more questions?

Eddie: Absolutely, they do that all the time. Again, unlike conventional methods of activism and demonstration, actually you become sort of a facilitator, a teacher. They come to you. That element of you going to them, that invasiveness, is not there anymore. You're not shoving a brochure in front of their face, you're not approaching them, they approach you. You stand by. We have literature, to whatever particular atrocity du jour that we're showing that day. For instance we show great literature from [Vegan Outreach](#) when we do slaughterhouse footage. We have [Friends of Animals](#) brochures on fur when we do the fur issue.

So people come up to you and ask you questions and ask for more information, so it becomes more of a teaching experience. It's a great way because people are not defensive when they're not approached, they don't feel a need to protect themselves. The way we edit the footage, we try to carry the message in 5 seconds, because that's about the attention span of a typical New Yorker. [laughs] So we edit it in such a way that we grab their attention, they see it, they continue to look at it, they come up, ask for more information, take some brochures, ask how they could help. For the most part, again, it's a positive experience.

Lauren: So many times, and we try to do this on the show as well, is that we're talking about really brutal issues and that people do want to feel like they can help some way, so that's great that they have that opportunity then immediately to get that information.

I was wondering, have you ever been bothered by the police for disturbing the peace?

Eddie: For the most part the police, they don't bother you. Of course you don't block any pedestrian traffic, you keep an orderly and decent... respectful of those around you, and usually they don't bother you. Except when you go and have a target. For instance, if you do fur in front of a fur store, expect a problem. They'll arouse the police, and the police will come and ask you to leave because you're upsetting the store owner. So that causes a problem sometimes.

But for the most part the police are very... actually they tune into the videos themselves. Of course you get your rogue [laughs] law enforcement officer who has issues himself or herself and they would discourage you from continuing. Unlaw-

fully, illegally sometimes they say you have no right to be here but you do. But we recommend everyone to comply with the officer's wishes. We go on to another location. For the most part, we don't have a problem.

Najda: When you started doing this it was the fur industry that you said was the one that catalyzed you. Are you doing issues around meat eating now, and are you getting similar positive reactions? I think the fur industry, a lot of people are very moved by it and see the fact that it's not necessary and are really upset by it, whereas a lot of people are more defensive around the meat eating because it's something that personally they're involved with. So are you having different reactions in terms of the imagery with fur-bearing animals and the fur industry as compared to the meat industry and "food animals"?

Eddie: I thought so too, one would think that people would be more defensive when it comes to the food issue. But actually we've gotten tremendous feedback from people in the street, actually we get bigger crowds showing the atrocities committed against animals on feedlots and slaughterhouses and hog farms. Not everybody wears fur but everybody eats, most people eat meat, and it sort of calls to them. So maybe that's why we get a bigger crowd.

Najda: Or maybe it's the imagery, I mean I think a lot of people have been exposed now to the fur industry and to images of it, but different people we've talked to have said they have slaughterhouse imagery or videos that the media, especially the big networks, won't put on the air and they say it's too graphic or too upsetting or too contentious, and so maybe it's the fact that they haven't actually seen these kinds of images before that stops them. I don't know.

Eddie: It's a good theory, it would make sense.

Lauren: I think we'll go to a song, but I wanted before we break if you could give people some information about how they can get *The Witness*. Maybe you want to give that information now?

Eddie: Well, they could log onto the Tribe of Heart website, tribeofheart.org, and they could order online. Or you could log onto our website, oasissanctuary.org. We don't have a Faunavision site yet. We're working on it!

Lauren: Also I have here, you could contact Tribe of Heart. The number is (607) 275-0806. We're going to play some music, and then we'll come back and I'd love to talk about the Oasis Sanctuary and what that's all about.

Eddie: Okay, good.

Lauren: Welcome back to Animal Voices. You're listening to CIUT 89.5, and today we're speaking with Eddie Lama. We were talking about *The Witness* at the beginning of the interview, which is a documentary about your journey towards looking at animal issues. And then we were talking about the Faunavision. I know Najda you had some questions before we move into talking about the sanctuary.

Najda: Eddie, I want to talk about the use of imagery and the way you've described the Faunavision it sounds very powerful in terms of colour, larger than life, surround sound. We live in a very visual world and we're exposed to a lot of graphic imagery and it seems like people are becoming desensitized and they need to have more and more arousal to make themselves react. Do you see that as a problem? What's going to happen when people see the Faunavision and they sort of, okay, I've seen that, it's not affecting me anymore. Does it have to get bigger and more and more? Do you see that as a problem or do you see that this is a way of breaking through all that desensitizing that has taken place?

Eddie: Right. Remember too that people that have opportunity to see Faunavision probably just see it once. It's a big city, 8 million people in the city. We don't get many re-runs. So they usually see it for the first one and only time. Hopefully we'll get 8 million people to see it once. And occasionally we'll hit the few thousand that'll have seen it uptown when they're downtown. So that desensitizing aspect of it doesn't really happen. For most it's a first, and that's where the big impact comes. When I first saw these images, it rocked me. And they still rock me. I haven't been desensitized.

So does that happen, desensitization? What happens is, it gives people another perspective they've never had. That's what usually happens. And no-one can say, "I didn't know." Now you're left with yourself, and that's where the hard part comes in. I tell you, kids take this much better than adults.

Najda: That's interesting that you brought up that point, because during the break we were talking about, wondering how do kids react and how do their parents react to their kids reacting?

Eddie: For the most part we have no problem but you have an occasional irate parent that spews forth vilifications [laughs] upon you and whisks their child away from these evil images.

Najda: I have a daughter who's four and I really try and not shelter her from the reality of the world, but in a very controlled way of course. But the things that I expose her too are, this is what happens to animals. She understands what battery cages are. I haven't had her watching graphic slaughterhouse imagery, but she

doesn't need to. She's very sensitized to it, where I think people that have children who are eating meat might be more concerned about their kids seeing, this is what happens to animals.

Eddie: Precisely. This is what I've found, that adults project their own fears upon the kids. The kids take this as a matter of fact: "Oh, this is what happens, Mommy?" They just take it as a learning experience. But as adults we've already been instilled with many fears, acculturation, philosophy, so it arouses our emotions, adults' emotions. And there's that question, the kid's watching something and oh wait, Mommy feeds me hamburgers. So it opens up questions upon the parents. And maybe it will impact the kids' perceptions on the parent, and that makes them uncomfortable. It just opens up a can of worms, to use a non-vegan term [laughs], for the adult that's not ready to take that journey, of self-honesty or whatever it is.

It's a difficult path. There are plenty of good people that eat animals, and that's not the implication. The thing is, we're taught not to look too much, as a culture, we're taught to accept things the way they're presented. And who wants to be a pariah, who wants to be different? If you set yourself aside you're open to ridicule. Everybody follows. One radio celebrity in New York, I forget her name but she's great, called humanity "sheeple", people being led. As long as we have our creature comforts, our MTV, our Fourth of July barbecue and our turkey dinner Thanksgiving, don't tell me too much. That's the reality, good people sometimes say exactly that, "I don't want to know." It's a difficult thing. But like Howard Lyman says, plant a seed and walk away, that's all you can do really. You can't change anybody but yourself.

Lauren: Your journey begins in Brooklyn, and you were working at a construction place?

Eddie: Yes.

Lauren: How did people react to your newfound epiphany, this different view of the world that you had? Did you get razzed, or was it all right?

Eddie: Initially I did. Especially growing up in a very rough background, very violent. I was violent myself. There was violence heaped upon me, and I had my share of doling it out. That was the nature of living in the streets in Brooklyn. So I grew up with that, and construction itself is not a dainty place. So yes, in the beginning. But here's the deal: a lot of people who knew me, knew me and respected me in a certain way. And when they saw somebody they respected have this vision, there was some ridicule, yes, mostly good-hearted, light-hearted stuff, but what it did is motivated them to question.

And my director of operations turned vegetarian. We have people that are concerned with animal issues, I have a lot of mechanics out in the field, and carpenters and iron workers that have come to me with rescued cats on-site. This would have never happened before. Instilling this vision of animals has been very positive, and nobody laughs at it anymore. Nobody laughs at it anymore. See, once you know, once you understand something, a lot of prejudices and misconceptions fall by the wayside.

Truth is a funny thing. Somebody said, I don't know who it was, but I read it somewhere, they said truth goes through three phases. When truth is first presented it is ridiculed. Like the idea of slavery, that blacks are equal, was ridiculed. Then the second stage is violent opposition to that truth, and then the third stage is, it's accepted as self-evident.

And that's been my experience, and if you look at other areas in history that new ideas have been presented you'll see that process present, in everything from slavery to womens' issues, and that would include animal issues. First it's ridiculed, then it's violently opposed, then it's accepted as self-evident. I think there's overlapping of all those three elements right now in the animal movement, but mostly going toward self-evident. There've been many strides in accepting animals as sentient and bestowing upon them some sort of recognition and acknowledgement that never before was possible.

Lauren: Maybe you can give us a little bit of background into the Oasis Sanctuary which you founded.

Eddie: It was founded December 5, 1998. As the stone says when you get there, that's when a dream became reality.

Najda: And what was your vision? How did it come about?

Eddie: It really starts from way back, because Oasis is a synthesis of two of my passions: helping animals and helping people that have been disempowered and disenfranchised, to wit, recovering alcoholics and drug addicts, which I have a lot of connection with. So early on, I wanted to do that, open up a rehab, maybe become a counsellor, when I first was introduced to the recovery community. And my life just went on, and that kind of took a back seat.

Then years later I got instilled with this vision of animals, and I started rescuing animals on job sites, and we started not having space [laughs], and kind of called all my favours in from different friends to adopt the animals that I found. I knew a place had to be created to bring these critters to. So what happened is, Oasis

is kind of a synthesis of both of these passions. What we have there are basically people in recovery that work and get a salary and free room and board in a vegan environment, and work alongside the animals. It's been a wonderful symbiosis between "rescued" humans and rescued animals, and this interaction has been just really wonderful. You see how one helps the other.

One of the main characteristics of addiction is its self-centeredness. What happens with interacting with animals that are more needy than you are, and giving of yourself, it kind of gets you out of that. We've seen that, we've seen people rise from the mire of self-centeredness into really giving of themselves and selflessness. It's been great, and the sense of responsibility and good work ethic and sense of achievement that you're helping, it's a wonderful thing and the animals benefit by it, by having caring individuals tend to them. It's just been wonderful.

Lauren: It sounds fantastic.

Eddie: That's the Oasis story.

Lauren: For people who are interested in Oasis Sanctuary, could you give the website?

Eddie: The website is oasissanctuary.org.

Najda: I was curious Eddie, you talked a little bit about people in recovery moving from their self-centeredness and into healing. I wonder if you can talk about how their perceptions of animals change, and if they have epiphanies and if they start on a journey towards awareness of and consciousness of animal suffering.

Eddie: No doubt. People in recovery are on a journey already. A journey to truth, a journey to love, which alcohol and drugs have denied them. And I speak for myself also. So with this newfound freedom from being released from the bondage of addiction, comes this need to do things in an honest and pure way. Once that element is introduced into the equation, it's almost impossible not to understand the plight of the animals or to empathize with them.

Most of the people there that come up to work, it's 90-day rotations, they invariably leave with a different perspective on animals. Some of them, if not totally eliminating animals in their diet, eliminating certain animals, reducing their intake of animal products. Certainly more of an understanding and connection with companion animals. And some turn that "V-word", into veggies. Once you are willing to be honest, all things are possible. [laughs] Invariably, they leave much more tuned in to animals than when they came in.

Lauren: That's great. I had some questions about what animals are currently at the sanctuary, the nonhuman animals. And where do they come from? Are they rescued primarily, or people just bring them in? Neglected animals? How does it work?

Eddie: Yeah, neglected, abused, rescued cases, some from dire emergency situations, some just in chronic lamentable situations like tied up to chains. But they all basically have sad stories with happy endings. They all find their way to Oasis. Believe me, we don't advertise. Anybody who's in the sanctuary endeavour knows that, build it and they will come. Build it, and they will come.

And it's just sad, you could have another million sanctuaries and it's still not going to address the problem. So many unwanted, abandoned, abused animals. So really the only way to change it is through education. You have to change people's ideas of animals, their perceptions of animals. That's what Faunavision tries to do. Oasis is a nice symbol and a nice example of what the philosophy is, bestowing rights on animals, and it's nice to see that, and it serves its educational merit. And of course, it helps those particular animals. But in the big picture, it's nothing. The big picture is to educate the people. Because it's not really an overpopulation problem, as they say, the cat and dog populations, it's a human problem. It's what we do that impacts the animals.

Lauren: How many animals are at the sanctuary right now?

Eddie: First of all, to answer your question, every kind of animal. Companion animals, cats and dogs, we have four-legged, we have two-legged, feathered, we have prey and predator. There's about 300 animals there right now, 300 animals all with a name. And believe it or not, they know their name. I thought a chicken — that was the last animal that I bestowed any kind of connection with — and Apollo, one of our chickens, may he rest in peace, knew his name! I would call his name, and he'd come to me. I would tell him, "I'm going to town," and he'd jump into the jeep. He was amazing! When I lost Apollo, I lost a friend. [laughs] Like Jim LaVeck says, we should have a policy, if they know their name, you can't eat them. Let me tell you, they all know their name!

But that's what we stop as human beings, to give the individuality to an animal. If a pig is just a pig... what if in the meat section of a supermarket you had their picture and their curriculum vitae? [laughs]

Lauren: Their name, what they like to do on Saturday afternoons...

Eddie: Exactly. Maybe a quick clip of him frolicking in the mud — if it's an organic

farm, of course. That's another thing, organic. People assume that it's not cruel, but killing is cruel, and that's the ultimate fate of an animal either on factory farms or organic farms.

Najda: Eddie, it sounds like you've done a lot of wonderful work. I wonder if you could tell us your vision for the future in terms of your activism. Are you just going to continue with the Faunavision or do you have some other creative projects in terms of educating people? And in terms of the sanctuary, what's your vision for the future?

Eddie: Well the sanctuary, I'm not looking to be the biggest sanctuary. It's really one of the most difficult, most gruelling, most time-consuming, most painful [laughs] endeavours one could do, because you're not dealing with widgets, you're dealing with living beings. Everything is important, and everything needs to be done just right. It's a difficult task. I mean, I run a hundred men in my business, but it's not nearly as difficult as running a sanctuary. If you put in a window upside down, you just put it back in the right way, no big deal. If you make a mistake or you don't observe an animal and they get sick, it's very difficult. Then for the most part, you're discouraged from helping. Especially in rural communities, where farming is part of the culture. So it gets, not discouraging, but...discouraging. [laughs] But it gives me courage when I look in their eyes, it keeps me going.

The vision for Oasis is basically to stay as it is, and be sort of a showcase for the philosophy. But really the thrust of my work, I would want it to go into education, through audio-visual media or through print media. Sort of an advertising push for the animals. I think in the big picture, that's the way to go, just to educate people, educate people, educate people. So that's where my vision is. Who knows? Billboards across the United States, TV spots, different creative ways of presenting the message like we did with Faunavision. That's the general thrust of where we're going.

Lauren: If people want to donate to Oasis, how can they do that?

Eddie: They can log onto the website, that's the easiest way.

Lauren: So it's oasissanctuary.org?

Eddie: oasissanctuary.org.

Lauren: OK, great. I guess they can reach you by telephone as well?

Eddie: Yes, I can give you a number. It's a 212 area code, New York city. (212) 459-4825.

Lauren: Fantastic. I wanted to say thank you for coming on Animal Voices today on relatively short notice. It was fantastic to speak with you, and thanks for the work that you've done and continue to do.

Eddie: Well, thank you. The work you're doing is phenomenal. I guess you connected with Eric, director of operations, and he told me all about you. I gotta say, it's a beautiful thing you're doing. This work could actually make a huge impact, getting it on the airwaves, really being a voice for the voiceless. We hear that all the time, but you truly are, literally. [laughs] Thanks for all that you do, really. I'm honoured to be on your show.

Najda: Thank you, that's very much appreciated, it sounded very genuine, Eddie, and thanks for the work you do. You've been listening to Animal Voices on [CIUT 89.5](#).

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