



SOUTHCOAST Artists Index

This story was collected through our partnership with the SouthCoast Artist Index, led by Ron Fortier.

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Interviewer Name: Ron Fortier Storyteller Name: Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ron Fortier

Hello and welcome. To our podcast, I'm your host, Ron Fortier. And we have a very illustrious guest in in the House today and and.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I was going to say you're a.

Speaker

Dead ringer for the guy I was talking.

Ron Fortier

About but. We'll explain that when we get there, what I always do, it's it's a bit of an ice breaker. Sometimes I get something that's like, you know, Groucho Marx would ask these questions. OK, sometimes you get something, sometimes you walk away with nothing. You know, so.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Alright, let's go for it.

Ron Fortier

Hi. What's your name?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

My name is Fitz Carmel Manuel Lamar. But you can call me.

Ron Fortier

Fits fits OK, and so you've already pronounced it, but how do you spell?



Fitzcarmel LaMarre

It all, spelling of the whole thing first name F. ITZ. Carmel altogether, no capital C, No hyphens fits Carmel Manuel, of course, Manuel and Lamar LA Capital, MA.

Ron Fortier

OK, the reason why I ask is because. I have found that even people with the simplest names can get them butchered constantly.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ohh my name gets butchered on the regular. There's 23 letters in that whole thing, so most people aren't gonna get that right.

Ron Fortier

And they're like. So what's your first name?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah. And then I say.

Ron Fortier

Do they think Manuel is your first? Name and somehow you you you cause you. Wouldn't know who's alive, alright?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Oh, you'd be surprised. Yes, people think my. Well, people think Lamar is my first name, and then they'll call me Lamar. And then. I'm OK with it because that is my last name, but then I'll tell them I'll then we'll to, you know, they'll they'll come to me with the application. Hey, on here. You're.

Speaker

You're not in the army.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

No, Fitz Carmel is the first name. And like like you said, like, I don't know my name or what I'm supposed to.

Speaker

Thank you, Jesus. I have paid her it again.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

So put this down here. That happens all the time, all the time, and then usually there's not enough space on any application for my whole name so.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Fitz Carmy or Fitz car? Yeah. Is is there a fits fits. I don't. I don't. Am I pronouncing that right? You know, you don't have enough space in your application. So yeah, it's all I can fit in there.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah. I my first intern. When I I worked at an advertising agency well, years ago, her name was Anne Margaret. The story that that's every time I think of her every time I do this because OK, she used to say. She



used to say, you know, I go someplace and. And what's your name? Anne. Margaret. What was your last name? Margaret. No. That's your middle name. Don't you think I would not. What's your? What's your middle name? I don't have one. Why don't you have one?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Don't you think I would know, right?

Ron Fortier

Wow. Like it was like yo, exactly, exactly.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

What's wrong with you? Why didn't you have healing? What?

Ron Fortier

So how? Where did you come from?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

My family? Well, me like.

Ron Fortier

Because you said you you've only been here 7. Years. So that comes in somebody.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Oh, OK. Yes, yes, yes. Well, originally I was born in Boston, but there was a divorced mom and dad. I ended up in Florida when I was about four or five and then lived there. That's where I grew up. And then from there, I kind of lived in Florida for a while.

Ron Fortier

Else yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Moving north and then I moved to California. Angeles. I was there for about seven years or so, and then I moved out here. And so I've been here almost.

Ron Fortier

Seven years. OK, So what made you come back? Kind of. I mean, you missed the. Mark bites. Yeah, like 60 miles South, but.

Speaker

My little bit my little bit, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, family, OK. My son is in South Dartmouth with his mom, and so I basically we were out there in California and now she lives there and I live in. New Bedford. Yeah.

Ron Fortier

OK, OK. Yeah, alright. Yeah, I know the the feeling, the divorce thing cause. The first six years of my life was spent in New York City.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Oh, right on.



Ron Fortier

And it kind of. Kind of set me on the path. You know that I'm still on. I had a the uncle, my mother's uncle was a crazy man for culture, and supposedly he came from the old country and couldn't speak, read or write. I mean, couldn't read or write his own language. And obviously he couldn't speak, read or write English.

Speaker

OK.

Ron Fortier

And the the legend is that he locked himself up. In a room for like I don't. Know what a. Short period. It wasn't that much. It was. Amazing. He came out. You know, speaking language language here. Yeah. He was a newspaper publisher. Wow. Wow.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Get out of here.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, that's huge. To move to that level. Well, I'm a big I'm a big. I mean, not everybody knows this, of course, because I don't talk about it. But self education is is huge to me, like being able to because I'm a self.

Ron Fortier

Oh, it is. Taught artist I was going to ask at that point, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Nobody like there. I mean, I went to school for graphic design but. I still learned more. At a job than I ever did in school, but as far as painting and drawing and illustration and all of that crafty stuff, I was kind of a hermit for a long time, even as a kid, I had siblings, but I kind of played by myself for hours and hours on end. Whether it was making. Stories with GI Joes or talking to my cousins when they would come over and making up these stories about GI Joes or any anything I would just. I was a storyteller, so that's kind of. How I got to where I am kind of now, but teaching myself all of that. You know, when you're interested in something, it's cool, but then when you really want to learn it, that's the true mark of your interest in something. It's like, oh, I got to learn. I got.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, I mean.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

To know how to do this.

Ron Fortier

What? What triggered you? What? What made you want to learn so bad that you that you learned?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

UM. The curiosity was was. Was always there from when I was a little kid. My mom would always. Yeah, I was always drawing, drawing, drawing constantly. So even once I got to handwriting, that was no problem. Once I got to elementary school, that was like, no problem. I was helping other kids draw their art, and the teachers would let me because they're like, hey, he's pretty good. You know, so yeah, right out, man. You know, do your thing. And so it was. I was lucky to have that kind of incubator to be able to. Teach myself and not have those, and they



were out there. But those people who kind of like, Nah, like my my father. Yeah. You're not gonna make any money doing that. You can't make a living being an artist. And all of these things. So those were out there. But then luckily, I had enough real support that just allowed me to be and figure out.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

A lot of that stuff.

Ron Fortier

Myself. Yeah, yeah. I mean, you're pretty polished for a guy who's self and and that sounds like that sounds like a. To the no no, no to the other people. You're pretty polished for a self-taught guy. Could be taken two ways, but you are very polished for a self-taught guy. It still sounds bad.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I kind of.

Speaker

Because there are people.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I know where you're going for it.

Ron Fortier

Who live with quote UN quote education that aren't as polished as you. So you must have really like worked like.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I dig in, I go in. It's not I. Mean there's you. Can be as talented as you want, but if you don't. Exercise the muscle.

Speaker

Yeah, it's, it's.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

It's not gonna grow. It's not gonna flourish so. So I just I remove emotion. It's kind of one of those samurai things, you know. And then.

Ron Fortier

Ohh no I understand what you mean.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

When they're they're like, you can't think of the the the you know, the the emotion of am I going to win or lose? Let's just do your best and figure this out. You know. Just go with whatever the outcome is the outcome. Yeah. And I know what my outcome. Is so when I make mistakes it's I take mistakes differently, I think than other people and problems and situations I think like Einstein said, he just sits with problems longer and I think that's what I do. When it comes to.

Ron Fortier

Yeah. What did he say? The best thoughts come when you're not thinking of something like if something's wrong like that. Yeah, right about that.



Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah. Paraphrase. Yeah, because I would just you know, I would, I wouldn't force it, but I kind of you know, let it happen, but I had to keep doing it and then it was all that hermit time was practice. I was practicing. I knew there was. I can remember from when I was. I was in back in Boston, so I had to be about three or four years old. You know, I drew a circle with some eyes, but there were, like, Five Eyes, and he had, like, 10 arms and 10 legs and I remember looking at it as a little kid saying, yeah, that is not how people look. I remember saying that is not how people look.

Speaker 4

It was.

Ron Fortier

Almost like what do they call it? Incidental music. It was, it was almost.

Speaker

Was it was, it was songs.

Speaker 4

Cute. We were gonna build up to something, right? Ohh man, I thought I got that.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah, yeah. No, not a problem. Not a problem.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah. So. I lost my train of.

Ron Fortier

Thought now. So if that's not how people look, 10 arms and 10. Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

That's not how people look. And then that was my quest, I guess, from when I was a little kid to. Make it look like people and I want. I've always wanted to draw people. I've always the human face is like the most recognizable thing to any humans. Right? You just slice off some eyes. Yeah. You know, that's a human from a distance. It's, you know, we communicate through them so. It was, you know, it was. It it was like a drive in me to figure out and faces are complicated with all the different types of faces and everything. No, no, they're not. And so I had to learn all of these things and then it. And I love people. Right. So I'm a people person. So I draw people and I love faces and.

Ron Fortier

Ohh. They're they're? Yeah, and they're they're not as symmetrical as everybody thinks. They're crooked as hell, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

The intricacies and everybody, everybody has certain shapes and lies. Lines that are that's rons line the the way your ears are and your your jaw and the top of your hairline, and all of that. No, no, not get out.

Speaker

Yeah, yeah.



Ron Fortier

Of it feel like a zoo and the Flintstones.

Speaker 4

That was a good thing.

Speaker

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Ron Fortier

Well, I mean it's it's a big cranium. It's gotta.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

But everybody. No, you're good, bro. You're good. I stress. Still there. Yeah. Yeah. So everybody has a certain line. And look, that once you get.

Ron Fortier

Be discussed?

Speaker

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Goes then the rest of it's.

Ron Fortier

Easy, because part of it is I don't want to say trick, but it's tricks of the trade and and part of it is obviously complete observation and one of the battles right is if you make it look exactly the way it looks, it won't look the way it is. Yes, like Chuck close. Remember when he blew those things up all of a sudden? And what the hell it's like. Well, Beth, it's all.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Absolutely. It's all there. It's all.

Ron Fortier

It, but just.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Like depends on. Yeah. Where you're you're you.

Ron Fortier

Blowing up and it's.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Are when you're catching that perspective there.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, now, did you? When did you start working as an artist professionally, you know, professionally versus amateur for money, you know?



Fitzcarmel LaMarre

When I first alright, so I was a graphic designer all the way back.

Ron Fortier

Florida, now you are around the Miami area.

Speaker

Yeah. Yeah. OK.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

South Florida area, Fort Lauderdale. I grew up in Miami, but then I moved to Fort Lauderdale and then Lake Worth. You know, I saw.

Ron Fortier

All right. Because I went to EU.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ohh right on Graduate School. Yeah, we. Ohh yeah, that was. You probably went at the fun.

Ron Fortier

Times. Ohh yeah, that was when the whole entire Police Department was indicted for cocaine 2.

Speaker 4

Yes, OK, yeah. You were there. You were there, that's.

Ron Fortier

1008. And and the South Beach was still Skid Row.

Speaker

Florida. That's Miami.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, yeah, yeah. So when I was coming up, they kind of dusted that dirty rag off, and then they started throwing some clubs and bars down there. And it slowly started getting some legs, and then it blew up within. There was a five year span, not even 5. I remember clubs when they closed at 4:00 and then they started closing at six and then they just stop closing and they would stay up all night. And you had after, after parties and all this other stuff and South Florida, that South Beach area, it's just alive all day. So I you always hear. Like New York is a city that never sleeps. Yeah, I was like Florida ain't taking no naps either. No.

Ron Fortier

No, it was, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

It is. It is. At least Miami S Miami, FL that. Yeah, that was you could you can party. It's gonna. It's gonna beat you at the party game. You can't.

Ron Fortier

Party. No, no, no, no, you can't. When I was there, they had a huge crisis of of of.



Fitzcarmel LaMarre

South Beach you can't.

Ron Fortier

They didn't had had no idea what they were. They had to have a smile program because all of the resorts people were like all grumpy looking and stuff like that. And then it was Miami Beach itself was bubbly land. All that's where all the Jewish grandmothers went on, either because they wanted to or they were sent down there by their family. So they were bumpies everywhere. So you have signs and. Fish science in Spanish, you know, like the multilingual parking signs. And then it was, it was just kind of weird. And the 9th was it the 9th St. Bridge or the 19th St. Bridge? I never get those. Right. That's next to the, I think the Dade County Jail.

Speaker

OK.

Ron Fortier

But that's where they impound.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

That might. Be 19.

Ron Fortier

All the drug boats.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ohh that that was one of those drug boats like I mean. I don't want to get my aunt. In trouble? She worked with Miami-Dade police and.

Ron Fortier

Alright, she may have. She may have met my. Brother, my brother was was you was coast. Ohh OK, it's responsible the for the time. It was the largest coke bust in U.S. history. He was the leader of that. Yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

She was she was around then? Yeah. And she was saying, like, a lot of those busts, they some of them she felt anyway. Staged because she was like a lot more is coming through than that, like, whatever their, whatever they're allowing, then that's how she said it, whatever. They're allowing us to catch, they're getting like 10 times more than that in.

Ron Fortier

Were like those guys who got caught were were Guinea pigs. They. Yeah, they had. No. Idea what's going on? So while?

Speaker 4

Yeah, we're totally set up.

Ron Fortier

They were while the Cosis were jumping on them, they were. Going around the back one day, yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

They're going totally.



Ron Fortier

Yeah, well, living there. I remember today, Miami-Dade police, in cooperation with the United States Coast Guard confiscated, you know, 50 tons of marijuana. Falling off off of by a key and every night. It was like the tonnage kept going up and up and up and then we left just before they had the.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah. Going on. Yeah, yeah.

Ron Fortier

They incinerated all the all the stuff that they had collected and they had a downwind party. It was absolutely insane.

Speaker 4

No, what a downwind party. I gotta ride.

Speaker

Ohh yeah it.

Ron Fortier

Was it was. It was insane. Yeah. Yeah, that.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

See Miami.

Ron Fortier

That that had, like I said, this they. Had this crisis of of self, because if you came from the north because they thought back then. And this is between 7577. They thought they were at the end. Of God's finger, there was more international traffic going through Miami than there was American. Traffic, so good, bad, indifferent and so when they found out you were from Boston or whatever after making fun of your accident, they wanted to know what was going on because art wise, they thought they were living in, in a desert of culture or something. Really. Yeah. And then it really blew up after.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, yeah. That cause it's a hot. You have culture now like Winwood.

Ron Fortier

Oh my God. Yeah. Wynwood. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Have you been ohh my. God, that is like, yeah, artist heaven. When I die, that's what I want my heaven to look. Can we swear? No. Yeah. Ohh OK. **** gold streets. I want murals everywhere. Yeah.

Ron Fortier

Swear. I mean, what the heck? I mean, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Because that place. And then I remember there's this one street you just look across and there's. No murals. Yep, it like ends. It's like. Oh, this is the. End of Winwood.



Ron Fortier

There's the other.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

One. And you're like, wow, everything looks so Gray and yeah.

Speaker 4

Asian boring.

Ron Fortier

Well, you gotta pull Gables and that like with. Virginia Miller's gallery, and they're, you know, they're very state galleries and. So on. It's it's very, very Coral Gables, right. And you go to Winwood and there's, like, stuff jumping all over the place. This there's one. There's one place you're in Winwood. And I don't know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

It's so fun.

Ron Fortier

Just saw me and that the Anandi is on the right hand side and this other gallery I looked and I said Dawn Wilkinson would blow his brains out in this. Place I mean. It was like that was like, don't. 'S you know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, that's his little this piece of heaven. Yes, yes.

Ron Fortier

That's the place he, he and Elizabeth would have to go check it out. Yeah, but it's it's phenomenal, but. I mean, we're talking, you have to pay a participation fee to show on those galleries, not because the gallery owners are are a *****. Yeah, and shysters. But because you're talking. Well, let's see. I've been married to Oliver. Five years ago it was 2. \$150.00 a square foot. Wow. Wow. Yeah. Wow. Yeah, that's a lot. Of money. That's a lot. Of money. That's a lot of money. Umm. And then of course, the Pam wasn't there at the. Time. OK. Yeah, yeah. That is. That is a phenomenal gallery museum, actually. Yeah, but yeah, it there was. Yeah. Yeah, that's.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Florida was unfortunately like just before I left. Art Basel was starting to really pick up like I was going there a few times and it was just phenomenal. No, I didn't go this year.

Ron Fortier

You went this year? Right.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Been in a long time, honestly.

Ron Fortier

Alright, I've gotta. I've gotta go. I've been talking to Paula about it. Yeah, well, cause for me it's like, you know, Alma matter a lot, you know?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I need to.



Ron Fortier

We only lost one friend so far. I mean, I'm. I'm glad I went down there. I had to do a workshop at the at the Pam the Perez Art Museum. And thankfully, because he he just dropped dead. It was New Year's Eve. Yeah, this guy was phenomenal.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

OK.

Ron Fortier

Phenomenal man. And who is this? His name is Peter Zorn. This guy was a Renaissance man. He he worked for GM as a an auto designer. He was an industrial designer. OK, but he was like a Renaissance man and he developed the 1/6 lunar.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Was it?

Ron Fortier

Gravity Landers simulator finasa what? And there's a piece of a piece of work down there. The only part that's left of it. It was our MFA thesis. It was an 8 foot by 12 foot drawing, graphite, all done with a pencil, not of an M1 Sherman tank.

Speaker

That's nice.

Ron Fortier

With General George George S Patton on the. With a full complement of piece, it's had an entire storyline and everything was absolutely fantastic. But there's one piece that's left that still exists that I'd love to be able to have shipped up here for the military museum, if that's possible. But anyway. So in LA, what? Did you do?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

There. So I was. I got a job offer and then I moved out to LA.

Ron Fortier

And I'm I'm remembering now. Was there something to do with you in the recording industry when you were down in Miami too?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

No, no, no, no, no, nothing like that. Nothing. No, I.

Ron Fortier

OK, OK.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Was. I mean, I wish.

Ron Fortier

Well, I didn't know if you were. Doing covers or you know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

No, I was doing well. I started doing like home entertainment coverage. That's by the time I got to California.



Alright, cause I wanted to up the game a bit. I was doing graphic design in Florida and it kind of wasn't really going anywhere. Yeah, it was going it. Was OK, but when it? Was, but then someone who kind of worked with.

Ron Fortier

To be stuffed with people you know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

That company, it was Maverick Entertainment. So that's a movie distribution company. Yeah. Shout out to Doug, show up. And from from there, somebody who was doing movie covers, I wanted to do movie covers. I got I built a relationship with him. And he was like, yeah, you're good. And he was he.

Speaker 4

Gave me the.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Royal treatment he flew me out there. I hung out one time and then one of his guys was getting married and then I he invited me out to work and then at the end of the week he offered me a job and he said if you. Can get out. Here on your own. You got a. Job. So I told him. I'll see. You in a. Month. Wow. And I sold all my ****. And that was it was a huge purge. Like I got rid of and moved so. Well. No, I didn't even sell the house. I ended up losing it. Foreclosure. But I sold all my stuff and. Headed out to to Cali and from there I did graphic design for a while, but I I got burnt out it was it's. It's a difficult job, especially when you're dealing with big budgets and people with big budgets. If they're spending close to 1,000,000 bucks on something, you're gonna be staying till 10 at night and then. At 9:00 and then, you know, sometimes in some places you could take work home. So it it just became a bit much for what I wanted to to be doing. And then the little bug was creeping in. I would see the invoices and I knew how much money they were making. And I was like, man, I'm not making that much, you know.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, making a drip.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And then when? I would ask for raises, of course. You know, you get the negotiation talk, but I'm like, I know how much you make. I see it. You know, I don't know if anybody's paying attention, but I am. And so you know, I I felt like if I have the chance to do it over again, I'm going to work for myself. Mm-hmm. And so when the opportunity, well, when the circumstances. Came about that I had to move out here. I I had the mentality. I'm going to completely rebuild myself because nobody knows me out here, so I can be whoever I want to be and nobody is going to. Know any better? So when I came out here, I said I'm going to be a traditional artist. A buddy in California was the one who was like you draw really well. But those pencil drawings aren't going to be worth a lot compared to paint. If you paint and you channel that that talent you have with that pencil into some paint, you're going to go somewhere. And so I was like, shout out to Mike, Lonnie for that one and then he, I took that advice. And I bought some boards and then I painted my first paintings, which were the ambassadors of Peace, Bob Marley, Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, John F Kennedy and Martin Luther King Junior. And they were these large scale. Paintings. And then I was like, holy ****, I can paint because I basically using self teaching knowledge.

Speaker

You know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

As long as I was. Using Gray, yeah. Black and white paint. It was like I was using a a wet pencil. That's how my brain was. Yep, Yep. And I just had to learn. When you do the strokes this way, you can add a little water and do this or you can let it go dry. And it does this effect. Yeah. And then so my brain is logging all of these different



treatments and things to do with just black and white. I tried color and I totally screwed it up. So I was like just. Stay in your lane. Stay in your lane. So then the best way to learn is to teach. That's something that I picked up along the way. So I became one of those Michaels art teachers. And and I still thought I sucked. But the people who I went to, who I was teaching were like, you're incredible. You're so patient. Thank you so much.

Ron Fortier

So which one of them coined you as the black boss?

Speaker 4

The black Bob Ross.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

No, I think I just kind of came up with that one just cause you know, I was on Instagram and I was like. Would be a cool hashtag you. Know. Yeah, I'm. At first it was the art. Guy, right? I was. The art guy cause when I was so from Michael's, then I picked up. I started teaching painting because I only have an associates and you. Didn't I can teach anybody how to paint and as soon as they see your work, they're like, yeah, I'll sign up for that. They're not asking for a. Degree or anything like that? So then I made-up these so that was my intro to being a professional in the paint arena. Now I was an art teacher and people were paying me. Michaels gave me free. Paint and brushes and they gave me like all these panels and canvas and stuff to, you know, get your classes going. And I didn't. I didn't do. My classes weren't packed, but that wasn't the goal. It was. I was trying to teach myself. So then I got to a level where I felt very, very comfortable. And then I. Became one of those. Paint nights at painting with A splash down there in New Bedford. That one, or painting at splash.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah. Yes. Yeah. And the trans is it?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Hmm. Yeah, they used to, but now they sold it to somebody else. Yeah, and they they were cool. They were cool. They they treated me well. But that's where I got, I think. Ohh, that's where I came up with the.

Ron Fortier

The trans. Yeah, yeah, yeah. OK.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Black Bob Ross. While I was there because I figured I'm painting in front of. People. So that's where I came up with.

Ron Fortier

Right. And you gotta you, you you gotta do the. Chatter the whole ohh the.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Oh, the whole time. So I'm telling dirty jokes and all kinds of stuff I'm dancing around, doing a little singing.

Ron Fortier

Thing. Yeah, you gotta be. Yeah, yeah. Yeah, because they they did hide it in drums. Yeah, because they want to do it so bad. That they're like, yeah, they got to. Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Loosen them up a little and you know you got that liquid courage with you. Take a few swings. So I was always. I was. I mean, even they told me, like by far according to the reviews and everything. You're like the best. I hear



you're really doing it and I didn't know any of that. I never read the reviews or anything like that, but it was always these reinforcements that. Would come, yeah. From these kind of outside influences or people or whoever that kind of like when I was a kid, they always constant. Shaped it. I wasn't making a lot of money, but at least I was doing what. I wanted. To do. Yeah. So then I I feel I really honed my craft just with time and teaching. Other people? How? To paint you. Know and I still every now and again teach folks how.

Ron Fortier

To paint. OK, so I've been. I've been wanting to ask. That that you buy the the little books that you know they used to have the solos books. I think the foster series or whatever it was I bought no books, no books. You do you do. Do you do did.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

You do YouTube university. No YouTube university. I remember watching Bob Ross.

Ron Fortier

All on your own.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

When I was a kid.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And that was all. I mean, I I didn't even. I mean, I could have watched it. He's on Netflix now. Yeah, but no, there's still. So there is still something to me teaching myself how to do it, because somebody because in mistakes is where I feel I learned.

Ron Fortier

The most ohh always exactly don't go there.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Don't do that again. You know. Hey, it's.

Ron Fortier

Hot. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

OK, I am not going to do that again that.

Ron Fortier

Doesn't work. That's where it once burned. Guys learning.

Speaker

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

So even when I would be teaching these classes, I would tell them, hey, I've only been painting. For a year? Yeah, I've only been planning for a few years now. You're lying. Well, I can draw, but no. I taught myself how to.



Ron Fortier

Paint. Isn't it weird? Because, I mean, you know, linear, you know, drawing and and then for some reason, getting students, they just want to shade the hell out of everything. Like, no. But it's so totally different, but then when you when with pain. And it's it's so different. It really is just flat shapes. Little little teeny ones, big ones, medium size ones.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And then you blend them. Little here and then you blend them a. So that's even part of how I do everything. I kind of block out all. My shading, yeah. And then between these two? This light and dark. Oh, we just. Need a little? A little Gray? Yeah. We just need something to make them make them happy. Couple. Blending that together.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, you've gotta you gotta check.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Just like wow, that works.

Ron Fortier

Out Hawthorn on painting?

Speaker

OK.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And but now now I don't want to. I didn't.

Ron Fortier

Yeah. No, no, it's. Not a how to, it's just it's it's. It's a really interesting. This is the guy who thought of the whole. Old art colony thing out and and God. Yeah. Yeah, we have to read that book. When we were at at what was SMU, Southeastern Massachusetts University. And so there's a correlation there between Hawthorne and and Hans Hoffman. Yeah.

Speaker 4

Oh, really? OK. OK. Right.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Well, well, I don't want you and I don't want anybody to think. I'm against education because now what ended up happening is I do every now and again pick up a.

Ron Fortier

No, no, no. No, no, no, no, no.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Book and like Southworth Library has this great book sale and I was able to pick up. Like a book on skin tones. And I was like, hmm, this is gonna help me because it's in my portrait thing. And then there was all these great little things that some of them I knew by all of my mistakes. Mm-hmm. And then some of them were like, ohh. Ohh that's how you get that. And that's so there was still. I there is still value in those a lot. Not that I think I enjoyed kind of being in the wilderness by myself and trying to figure it out and then getting some formal books and seeing what other people are saying on how to do this and that and some of sometimes I'm like yeah, I don't



need any. And then I just still go and do my own thing because it comes out OK. And so if it looks good and people will buy it, it must be.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, that must. That's all it. Yeah. How did you get to New Bedford? Was it just because of The Walking Dead craze or was it something else? I mean, at first people must have been. Are you crazy or something?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Some people, definitely other people were like, and that's crazy enough to work. And so I had to really support, well, we'd just be sitting around, hanging out with. So Earl White was one of the first people. He was my roommate in the 1st place I moved into when I moved to New Bedford. And he. You know, we just be sitting, hanging out, and then I, you know that name, New Bedford, you know. And then I was like, what about a zombie apocalypse? Cause I I've been wanting to be a comic artist ever since I was. So I wanted to do so I'm reinventing myself, right? And now I have these good skills with painting. I have connections with the city. I have a decent crowd of people who respect my talent. I felt it was time for me to do something for myself now because we're getting back to that. I want to do something for me instead of making somebody else. Right, right. So I got. Just through all. The workshops and stuff I was doing around town I got. Approached about being artisan residence at the New Bedford Whaling National historical.

Ron Fortier

Park. Yeah, I. Had I had to memorize. That versus this. I. Yeah. Well, I I applied for for grant as well. Yeah. So see what happens? Yeah, but it's totally off the wall different, so yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ohh OK yeah. And I think I I feel like. See, I was in the 1st that it was the first time they were launching that program and so they had four artists and I was, I was, I called myself an Anchorman because I was the last one out of the four in that. This year, but it would like now, I might have got in, because now they this it's kind of a different setup. So I just feel like the universe kind of. Worked it out. What was the theme?

Ron Fortier

That you have. To apply for, there was no.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Theme. At that time there was I and that I even asked him. So what can I do? And they were like whatever you want.

Ron Fortier

Theme. There was no theme at that time, all right. Because you gotta give them the props. I mean to, to, to, to, to support, to, to accept and support an idea that most people would.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Be going. It was a long shot in my head, like I couldn't believe that Josh Bowles allowed this to happen. Yeah.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, I mean, you know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, he's the one who's like, what do you know? What do you want to do? And I was like, dude, I want to do a graphic novel. It's a zombie apocalypse idea called New Bedford. And it's based right here using the history of this city. Twice it's been the richest city in the world during the zombie apocalypse will be its third. Time and he was



like fine.

Speaker

Go with it.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And that was it. I was like, wow, that.

Speaker 4

Was it that?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Was the pitch. That's all I had to do and he was because we had this relationship already where he was kind of one of those people who was, like, crazy enough. To work and he gave me a shot and. I've never made a graphic novel. I've never. I kind of tried to put a comic together and it was really too busy and I only did it in pages. But. I just felt like this is the time for me to get my **** together and so I ended up. Writing out the story, so the first book is pretty much written out, and the second books are kind of pretty. They're they're almost done too. The the writing portions of them anyway for the script and dialogue and such, and then some of the dialogue I flesh out and I wait till I'm kind of working on it because I'm going to be doing photo shoots.

Speaker

Blah blah blah blah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Let me rewind a little bit. So I ended up. Having an open call at that first artisan residence, which I did not I'm I think I'm good at marketing, but sometimes they're those great things that happen that you don't know like. So I had to give away T-shirt. You can get some T-shirts and stickers if you come and poses or I think it was just T-shirts. And pose as a zombie because I'm trying to build a library of characters cause I want it to be super authentic like I'm looking for an authenticity. That isn't like I do love The Walking Dead, but there's a certain authenticity in there or, you know, like these people are rubbing blood all over their faces and, you know, skin is porous. But if you get bit, you turn, if you get scratched, you turn, but you're rubbing blood all over your face. Nothing's nothing.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, you're still living and they do it regularly. I was like, I don't like that so. And I like fast zombies and slow zombies, so I just compress everything into this one story. So I needed a a crop of people. And then there was a line out the door for people who were there to pose as zombies.

Ron Fortier

Shock #2, right?

Speaker 4

Yeah, dude, I was like. What the hell is going on?

Ron Fortier

I got the gig. Second shock.



Speaker 4

Yeah, no.

Speaker

You are.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Because I hadn't. I bare I had. I don't even think I really did any drawings or anything. Yeah, like major at that time, it was just an idea and, you know. Yeah, I didn't know where I was really going with it. I hadn't done anything like this, but I was like. Alright, we'll figure. It out as we go. Yeah. And so this like, I'm taking pictures of all these people and there. Same time where I was tired. I'm at person 30 something. And then I turn around and the line is still there was a lie. I didn't even notice it, and I was like, where all these people come from? And then I can kind of see it going out. But then I heard it was like a really long line. And there are people who like.

Ron Fortier

It's become a a thing. To say I'm one of I'm I'm I'm one of Fitz.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

'S characters, yes. So the second event we had.

Speaker

I'm not expecting.

Ron Fortier

Plaques on the on the front of your.

Speaker 4

House. You never know the Deadwood character. I'm on page 23. You'll see me. I'm the zombie in the background chewing on this dude.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

So yeah, people are. People are getting into it, but it was kind of part of the marketing handle that I wanted to use. Hmm. If I win this city, I can win any city. Yeah, and then I'll.

Ron Fortier

Have. Yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I have a whole team of city who are gonna be like, yeah, he's he's on point. Kind of like when, you know, like rappers are like, you know, they they they become famous in their city and that is what other people now looking at them in their. City like wow. And then they jump aboard because now.

Speaker

Right, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

It's like it's it's become this thing and now it's attracting people and then the zombie genre is so popular because of Walking Dead and you know, people like. So what makes even my art is autumn? She asked me. So what's going to mean? And this is I'm I commissioned her and. And she's like, so what's going to make this any different from any other? Zombie thing. So she's I like her because she's always real with me. And I was like, well, this this



is about it's not about a group of people roaming around trying to survive or one person looking for their lost loved one. This is about a whole city. This is about a city of survivors that have with the with what we have. Today, because there's a vision I have for the city in. Real life that. I'm kind of subconsciously putting into the story of how we're we're so tight, our tightly knit set up now because there's so many people I know that are in different committees on this one and that one and boards and working this here and there. So we do have a very tight knit city. I just feel in time that organization of all of these components, people, institutions, is going to hit that tipping point where now we have a synergy and so that's what I create in my book. We have a synergy. There's there's this. And survival is is the common goal. I deal with rape, racism, all kinds of issues. There's there's some cannibalism there. In in the book, just like we deal with now, but there's survival is the common goal of everybody. So with that and it should be the same thing. Now if we if we were fighting some aliens that came. Right. Now everybody around here would be tightening it. Every racist dude wouldn't be seeing black people. They'd be seeing humans. All of a sudden, but because we don't see these threats, even though we do have threats now. Politicians in the White House. It should be bonding us together more that. We don't see it that way because of the smoke and mirrors. So with my story I'm trying to create certain situations and show how people get through them. How do you how does a whole city survive the zombie?

Ron Fortier

Apocalypse. You're going to band together, you're not going to band together? I mean, that's that's yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yes, if you want to live. Yeah, you're going to work together.

Ron Fortier

Well, there was that thing that the the, the, the New England Historical Society posted on Facebook about that. Lieutenant Colonel, he shot one of his his own guys, and it's kind of interesting how you see the race relations which still exist in Southie. OK. To Roxbury. Duxbury. You know, and you can see what the roots of that prejudice was. Yeah, you know everybody. You know. You know my situation, we have these conversations and yeah, I cannot feel what you feel in your skin, right? But we have like or similar experiences because everybody comes up.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

There's there's an.

Ron Fortier

It's weird. It's weird. Yeah, exactly.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

It's the empathy that that if we exercise empathy. The connections we'll be able to make are amazing because that's what that's the way I've been able to build my relationships. I'm a people person. Yeah. I'm not like all these other cool people who. Don't like people? Right. Like I don't like people. I like animals. I trust animals more than people. Yeah, like, really. OK.

Speaker

OK.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

All right. All right. That's you. Not me. I I love people. I trust people now. I have pretty decent intuition, so I know that they're people you cannot. And that there are people that you got to keep. An eye on. So I'm not saying that people are evil, but I've been bit by a dog. You know what I mean? Like, I don't know. Do I trust? Dogs. Yeah, some of them. Yeah, not all of. Them yeah, cuz I've been hit. Yeah, once bitten, twice shy. So I'm gonna kind of I I



keep my guard up but. And that's with people too. But I still love people. I give everybody that same respect. I'm a guy who likes to hug people and. Talk to people.

Ron Fortier

Well, there's there's also. There's also been this, this shift that people don't really talk about. You see the kids and I'm talking, I'm talking the the teenagers of today.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And all this other kind of stuff.

Ron Fortier

And it probably goes up to maybe, I don't know, the millennials or whatever where. Because of what happened in school bringing in. To use that term, the speeds you know, the special education kids, the the kids who are different. OK, so people who didn't look like the people that live in your cul-de-sac, you know, because a lot of these suburban kids didn't meet anybody that wasn't like them, right. OK. Right. So now these kids were it was either forced upon them or whatever because. It was inclusion.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah.

Ron Fortier

You've heard that term, right? Right. So now you've got this generation who's growing up and. The dating it it it, you know, all the IT it doesn't matter anymore. It doesn't. But it's still all lingering thing from another generation. It's just, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And it's quite unfortunate to a degree, but I think there's work each individual has to do. Yeah, there's an accountability. You have to realize. I used to be homophobic when I was young, early 20s. Oh my God. I wasn't like violent or anything like that. I was just like. I don't know about them, man. You know, people would make fun of him. I'd laugh. I would go along with the jeering. It was the thing. But then it didn't really resonate with me. It didn't feel right. I was just going with the crowd and then I was like, you know what this is? This is wrong. I. Why am I scared? What is this? What is this? And then so I made. A conscious decision to make a gay friend because I know there's and if he's an *****, I'll find another one and and however, that works.

Speaker

Well, it's just the.

Ron Fortier

Way it goes. It's not, it's not.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And however that works.

Ron Fortier

Who you are that that it's not who they are. That should bother you. It's what they are that may bother. You right and.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Them being an ***** was would be more would that and that's anybody. Yeah, but then.



Speaker

I had a gay.

Ron Fortier

Friend who who tried to pick up somebody in a bar, who said, honest to God, Ron, if all the signals were there, I mean, I wouldn't do. That, yeah. And then the guy started screaming Scripture at me that I was in abomination.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Right, if it wasn't.

Ron Fortier

And it's like I was just asking you. For a date.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Right. It's just simple bro. I was. And just you know, you could be flattered. Which is where it happened. I mean, I grew up in Miami, FL. Ohh yeah. So I got hit on quite a bit by guys and so I had to and I think that's where my discomfort began because I didn't know how to be flattered. So to say I just knew how to react like everybody told me I should be reacting. And then I, you know, I grew out of it and then.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I from. From from that experience of going out and consciously trying to defeat this nonsense that was in my head that I knew was wrong, then I was OK. And then I have a ton of gay friends like, I think, yeah, I have a ton of gay friends, lesbian, straight, trans, everything, everything. And then I. I mean, I want more friends of all kinds different because there's. So much like. Learn from all those different perspectives that everybody has.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, if they were to redo a redo of friends and and and I have a problem with them redoing, like, bewitched or any of those classics, you know, but if they. Were to. Do one on that concept. It wouldn't be such sliced white bread as it is. I mean, Joey was probably the most outsider.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

No, I. Right, yeah.

Announcer

Because he was.

Ron Fortier

Italian background but. Well, I mean. But so this is a good. So now in the Deptford, I mean you're. So you're slipping these little lessons in there, you're slipping.

Speaker

Oh look.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And that's the moral side. Then there's the educational side. Yeah. So the history in it is something I'm. I, being in New Bedford, is why it made me fall in love with history, right? I've always had this thing for Harriet Tubman and. She was here. She was here.



Ron Fortier

Exactly. Yeah, she was here because Paul and I were watching Harriet. And you know, we, you know, we see the whole Philadelphia thing going on. I'm like. And then I was in the House on 7th St. Mrs. Haney.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, the Mary Nathan Johnson. Well, they usually say Nathan. Yeah, Mary, but you know.

Ron Fortier

But Nathan and Polly Johnson? Yeah. And I was in that house when I was doing when I was working for the city, for the Office of Historic Preservation. So Mrs. Haney gave me the whole thing on there, that they were confectioners. They were three black men that Frederick Douglass hung out there. I was, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, probably. I'll run down. Yeah, yeah. Well, lost his first home and he lived there once. He, him and Anne Marie Douglas came freedom. So I was like.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, I have a whole spin-off alright. So recently I got commissioned by AHA for this being and becoming a celebration. Her story was one of the hashtags and such like that. So it's a celebration of a lot of coming of type things. So I used that opportunity to create 3 pages. Like the 1st 3 pages of chapter one in New Bedford. So it highlights the Johnson House. Lee Blake is in. Yeah. And I have in the first panel, Harriet Tubman. She on that and Frederick Douglass sitting at the table in the Johnson House. Not that there. Lee told me there's no real hard evidence that they ever met. But they had to me.

Speaker

At probable.

Speaker 4

When you I.

Ron Fortier

Mean if the the timeline was right.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Well, yeah, they they did. My opinion.

Ron Fortier

And let me tell you, that woman had a. Set of breasts.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

On her? Yeah, they were America's Most Wanted. At the time. Ohh yeah, she was freeing slaves and he was going out there speaking against slavery. So from that kind of like how Tracy Ullman Show had The Simpsons and it was a spin off.

Ron Fortier

Oh yeah, that was funny. That was a damn good series, too, by the way. Yeah. Yeah, she told it.



Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I'm going to.

Ron Fortier

Like it was.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yeah, yeah, yeah. And and with great humor, too. Yeah, with great humor. So.

Ron Fortier

I'm painted black of that skit that she did with paint it black. Ohh you gotta check it out. Yeah, no, The Rolling Stones. OK. Ohh God, yeah. Yeah, yeah. They're they're classics. They're classics. Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Alright, alright, alright, alright for. Sure. So I'm gonna. I'm gonna have my own spin-off. Yeah, in. New Bedford, OK. So while we're telling this history. Yeah, and use utilizing. It's almost like we're reopening the Underground Railroad so we can survive. Yeah, from the zone. So as we do different things like with the Johnson House, there's going to be a transition where now you're back in that time and you're on a mission with Harriet Tubman and you're seeing where she's going. And I'm going to be still using historical places and people. I'm going. To make friends.

Ron Fortier

You'll never run out.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Of material never, never ever, ever, ever, ever ever run out of material.

Ron Fortier

I mean WEB Dubois WEB Dubois was here. Booker T was here. I mean, it just goes on.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

There's so much that was here. Yeah. It's new. Bedford is already historical fiction, using the cities history, but now I'm going to go in really deep with that and make Frederick Douglass like James Bond. Where and using black inventors to be the queue cuz queue always makes all the gadgets and. Stuff like that, right?

Ron Fortier

Yeah. Yeah. Well, Lewis Temple there, I mean.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ohh well we have now.

Ron Fortier

Come on. So industry spun on this man's point.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yes. Yes, yes. Yeah, so. Utilizing cause like in James Bond you have this one guy who makes all your gadgets. Yeah, but now in all the United States, you have all of these black inventors. Those are going to be the guys who are making Frederick Douglass's gag. In these stories that I'm going to make, and they're him and Harriet Tubman, they're going to be a team, and they're basically going to be doing raids on plantations to free slaves, and then using his speaking places to hide the slaves in plain sight and then get him the. Freedom, so that that's the other



underlying story inside of all the zombie apocalypse. And us having the band together today, I want to also reflect on just the history of the ground that we walk on around here, that survival is. Right here. It's it's it's. It's always been here. That spirit hasn't gone anywhere. Under our feet.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, this place has been an epicenter for so many things. It just it it it all keeps coming back to here and not just because I was born here and grew up here. I mean it. It's just your jaw drops, you know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Yes, yes, such a hub for so many things. I did.

Ron Fortier

Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

At the just the sheer amount of history here.

Speaker

Right.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Lee Blake showing me pictures of her abolition abolitionist grandparents. Right. And to me, that's like, whoa, what a connection here. Like, I have like to me, she's living legend kind of thing.

Ron Fortier

Ohh she is.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I and every time I'm with her, that's even in the book, there's a banter going on between me and her. Where I'm I'm almost like a tour guide to the house because she's she's been passing all of the history down to me, so I wanted to reflect that in the book. That yes, Lee, I have been listening and I've heard every single word. Yeah. Now I'm doing something with it. Yeah, I'm just not gonna hang on to this knowledge now. I'm gonna, like, get it in these pages, and I'm trying to. I'm trying to push this to be really, really popular. I'd like a Netflix or Hulu series. Shot down here eventually.

Ron Fortier

Well, that's why Brian Vincent Rose. I mean, if if that's. I I've I've never met Brian, but we've met. Well, I met his parents cause they're friends of of Paul's family, OK? And his granddad just passed away. He was a he was a a beat cop in New York City. He was a. We're talking class class classy people, and Brian went and did I show you that that I sent you the link to his cartoon that he that he did for his, for his thesis and how he got picked up by Fox and it just it just kept rolling from there and. So this type of collaboration, everybody's holding hands and pulling everybody, you know, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

That's what I'm hoping. That's what and I'm shooting. That's what I'm working on because I don't. It's not even new dead for it's it's not about me because like I said, the the stories about the city, I'm even, I'm writing these grants and everything just so I can hire other artists because they're artists like like autumn. Lives here. She's great. Scott Carroll. I'm trying to get him aboard. Ryan Santos. There's just some phenomenal artists here and these guys appreciate comics too. We've.



Ron Fortier

And we've had a we've had a couple of well milk Brightman wanted to be. He wanted to be a comic. Book artist I can totally see that. George Schwartz. He passed away, probably was around 2012, 2013. He was the guy who was the artist for. We're talking one of the big ones from DC, Adele. Really. Yeah, I've got. I've got. I've been collecting these obituaries because part of the whole artist index is we want to raise the debt we wanna raise. I mean, yeah, everybody knows about being stat and and Bradford and blah, blah, blah, blah. But there's all these other people of every color and every walk of life that that.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

OK. OK.

Speaker

Right, right, right.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

There's a ton them. There's a ton of. Them there's yeah, absolutely, absolutely.

Ron Fortier

You know that that that haven't. That people have just lost track of, you know. And so there's there's a lot going on there. We're going to start winding this down and I tell everybody. This is not a one and done.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

OK. Thank goodness.

Ron Fortier

I mean, if I was, if we were to just concentrate on Hatch St. OK, and we dropped one, which we do. We dropped one every Monday, a podcast every Monday I would have a year plus just in the building. I have no idea. I don't think anybody really has an idea how many artists.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Just in that building, yeah. There are here. No, I don't think so. There's so many, and then there's so many. Being born and like I'm trying to cultivate artists with this, the second part of the New Bedford project is an outreach program to the.

Ron Fortier

Youth. If you ever have a chance to go to Miami, I will connect you to Lourdes Fuller. My friend, Steve's wife, and she's my friend now, too. He was a year behind me. Good to you. Uh, she's an art. An art teacher in in.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

OK.

Ron Fortier

It's it's a tough neighborhood, Sherman middle school. I can't remember. I got. I got. But if you look her up on Facebook, you'll see what she is. I mean. I walked in there with a bit of A cause. You know, I've seen what happened to art education. I walked away from it because it got me. He got me crazy. I didn't want to be pushing.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ohh yeah, I did too, I did too.



Ron Fortier

Around the shopping cart I was the.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Guy with the car and.

Ron Fortier

You know I'm.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I had to go to these different.

Ron Fortier

Saying exactly and and it was entertainment and not. And they weren't, you know.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Triangle lessons. Yeah, there wasn't really a serious educational component.

Ron Fortier

Right. But when I walked into that school and I saw what these kids.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

The potential for what they can get down the river.

Ron Fortier

Oh my God. I mean, I was gut shot when I walked in that door. I couldn't breathe. Yeah, it was phenomenal.

We're talking middle school kids. Nice, you know, and the tight ship. Ohh, well, let me tell you, it's just phenomenal. So. It's not going to be one and done one to have you come back, especially if there's a key moment or a key, a pivotal thing that you say, hey, can we book a podcast? I wanna let you know. And don't forget, they're not timely because we're backlogged, but we're working on that too because I am putting out grants. We are putting out Grant grants because it's the same thing. We need to get writers.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

OK.

Ron Fortier

To write articles on these long lost people right even up and coming people we need, we need to I, you know, I don't want anybody to work.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Right.

Ron Fortier

For nothing like, yeah, I'm doing it right now.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I'm not with that. Yeah. Right exposure doesn't pay the.

Ron Fortier

Bills. Ohh yeah, yeah, yeah. Let me let. Me. Yeah. Yeah. Let me pay my mortgage. But exposure to see how well



that works out.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Usually killed you.

Ron Fortier

One final question, yes Sir. What do you want to be remembered for? Because this is what this. The artist index is all about, you know, the elevator pitches. We're building a pyramid. Pyramids weren't used to preserve bodies. They were used to preserve memory. Umm memory was where memory was about completeness. Yes, OK. All the parts of your soul. They don't believe in one soul. They believe in many. Souls. All those parts of your soul had to be contained so that you could make that journey to perseus's belt and be reunited to whatever it was that made us so. What do you want?

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

To be remembered for what do I want to be remembered for? That's a great question. I can't say I've ever thought about that.

Ron Fortier

For or as.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

I would want to be remembered as. Just a a cool *** dude that was had talent that people like. I don't want anybody. I mean, you can say artist, but just as a person, I want people to like really just have almost different facets of thinking like, man, that guy was so talented, but he was like, fun like, Oh my God, I just like being around him. He. Was a cool. Person like just I I hear of other people and how. They talk about great people who have passed and those they don't necessarily talk about what they did. They talk about how they made. Feel so I want to be. There you go. I want to be known as that guy that makes people feel.

Ron Fortier

Good. Yeah, I I think I, I. I smiled when you said that because I met Julia Child and it was a happenstance thing. And I was like, OK, if I don't get it now, autograph. Nobody ever believe me, it was like one of those moments in my head. So all I had was a was a business card cause I had an advertising agency at the time and I handed it to her and she saw it was from the Bedford and she said Ohh, Mr. 40th. Do please sit down. She spoke with me for 20 minutes. She was phenomenal and she wanted, you know, but the fishing industry and so on and so forth. And she wanted to come down and and it was like it was. It was. Yeah. And that's like, you know, that's the kind of thing you want.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

OK.

Ron Fortier

Not like, ohh, that *****, right? Right.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Exactly. I don't want.

Speaker

But even if.



Speaker 4

And because there's a person that's who like.

Ron Fortier

You're going to be an *****. You.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

One right, right. If I'm gonna go that route. I'm gonna be a biggest *****.

Ron Fortier

Yeah. And leave some really good stuff behind. Yeah, yeah.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

Ohh yeah, well rather, you know, I want to leave the good stuff, but then when people see it because I know you know what, there's artists who are super talented, that people are like. Yeah, but he's an *****. And I don't want that. I don't want that. I'm. Like, Oh my God, he changed everything here. He brought the industry of of film and everything, and he's just a multifaceted but *** ****, he's an *****. I can't stand being around that *****. Yeah. So I want to be at least, like, ohh man. It's like he changed. Game. But like he's just. He's just so bright. We just like this guy. He's just.

Ron Fortier

Like his light? Yeah, exactly. Exactly.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

And yeah, I just want people to. Exactly. Yeah, I guess, you know, that's what everybody. Wants just people to.

Ron Fortier

Like exactly. Well, it's that time, alright? And once again, I'm your host, Ron Fortier. And once again, in case you came in the middle of.

Speaker

Right.

Fitzcarmel LaMarre

This we're with Fitz Carmel Lamar. But you can call me Fitz.

Ron Fortier

Just call me Fitz. Were brought to you in part by the artists index.com. That's the In Focus podcast that is that's brought to you by the artists index.com. The Artists Index is a local resource for artists, artists, art professionals and art lovers. So until next time, thank you from all of us. At the artist index. Right. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker

Yeah. You're welcome.