Radio 4 Extra Listings for 3 – 9 December 2016

SUN
07:30 Pod People
09:03 Desperate Scoundrels
10:15 Desert Island Discs Revisited
10:45 Science Fiction
11:00 The Scarifyers

MON
08:00 Gudrun's Saga: Omnibus
11:00 Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra by Testbed Productions.
11:45 The Monk and the Coin

TUE
08:00 Gudrun's Saga: Omnibus
11:00 Made for BBC Radio 4 Extra by Testbed Productions.
11:45 The Monk and the Coin

WED
08:00 Gudrun's Saga: Omnibus
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THU
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FRI
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SAT
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South Africa, and reflects on the universal and contrasting problems that occur in their particular society. These Afrikaners, many of whom have dramatic personal lives themselves, offer advice in this unique forum. The presenters have many hours of experience on phone-in shows. Simpkins draws on her experience to offer a useful perspective on their approach to problem solving. Together they discuss the problems presented by motor racing drivers and listeners hear examples of some of the letters they receive and the advice given. Produced by Frank Simpkins and Stu Jay.

Inna talks to Cheryl Strayed, an American agony aunt who has received thousands of queries to her ‘Dear Sugar’ online column. Cheryl has struggled with many problems herself, including sexual abuse, bereavement and divorce. It’s no surprise then that her strap line reads, ‘From someone who has been there’. In this month’s extract she replies to a letters. Cheryl is a common optimism compared with the perceived attitude of the British stiff upper lip and reflect on why so many men write to Dear Sugar.

Producer: Ronni Davis

A Whole New Media production for BBC Radio 4.

MOY 14:30 15 Minute Drama (40klpm)

Where’s You Go Bernadette?, Episode 6

Maria Semple’s brilliant comic debut novel about misbegotten genius and mother-daughter love, starring Miranda Richardson, Lyndell Wilson, Richard Laing and Madeleine Potter. When 15 year old Bee wins perfect grades, she calls in her parents’ promise of a graduation present of ‘anything she wants’. This turns out to be a family trip to Antarctica – a prospect that worries Bee’s mother Bernadette, who wants her daughter to go to Oxford. In this month’s extract, Elgin confronts Bernadette about the mundane, intellectual and competitive lifestyle of their daughter.

Adapted by Miranda Davies

Produced/ directed by Emma Harding

Maria Semple has written for television shows including Arrested Development, Mad About You, and Ellen. She also produced the mini-series My So-Called Life. She has a BA from the University of Washington and an MA from the University of London. She is a member of the Writers Guild of America.

Monday 5 December 2016

TUES 00:00 The Improv Radio Hour (6093tb0)

First broadcast on the BBC Radio 4 Network.

Tuesdays 21:00, 28:00 and 31:00

The Improv Radio Hour

With Phil/Jenny, a comedy show from the London Improv. A weekly mix of music, stand-up comedy and Improv sketches, incorporating elements from the London Improv, Theatresports and other work from the UK and abroad. Featuring appearances from the world’s leading Improv troupes from London and far beyond including companies from across the UK, US, and Australia. Featuring BBC Radio 4 stalwarts, including John Finnemore, John Finnemore and Hugh Dennis. An Improv record is never quite the same twice, so book now and join us at the London Improv Club, where you can watch a new Improv show from the beginning and each week.

THE ATOMIC AUNTIES

This series is a comic drama serial written by Penny Beach. It has been dramatised and directed by Emma Harding and produced by Miranda Davies. It’s set in a 1950s pastiche of South Africa, where Irma and Cheryl compare notes. They consider American optimism compared with the perceived attitude of the British stiff upper lip and reflect on why so many men write to Dear Sugar.

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Her guest this week is comedian David Mitchell and Alex Horne, and writer and broadcaster Gemma Greer. Together they have fun exposing the wrong-headedness of received wisdom and challenging the dominant party in events.

Topics up for discussion are videogames, outer space and horse racing.

Produced by Victoria Coren Mitchel and Daisy Knight

An Avalon Television production for BBC Radio 4.

WED 09:30 Rose (b0079q0j) Series 3, Episode 5

Maria turns agony aunt, but is Paul finally turning all grown-up and responsible? In February 1997.

WED 10:00 House Front - Omnibus (b007xdc) 12-16 September 1916

In 1916 when tanks were deployed for the first time with great optimism, it's a week of decisive action in Follenstone. Written by Mike Walter

Directed by Lucy McGoey

Editor: Jessica Dromgoole

Story-led by Kate Hums

Sound: Martha Littlehales

Composer: Matthew Strachan

Written by Mike Walker

Adapted and produced by Fiona Kelcher.

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THURSDAY 08 DECEMBER 2016

THU 00:00 Zenhabachi (b083pchj)

THU 01:00 Science and Discernment (b06r5w9j)

THU 01:30 More for the Mind (b01xx98b)

THU 02:00 Halloween Stories (b01ky7mg)

THU 02:30 Radio 4 Extra Listings for 3 – 9 December 2016

THU 03:00 Mark Wise - 'In conversation with Mark Wise' (b01w69f3)

THU 03:30 Radio 4 Extra Listings for 3 – 9 December 2016

THU 04:00 Radio 4 Extra Listings for 3 – 9 December 2016

THU 05:00 The People's Theatre Project - 'Firepower' (b01kknt8)

THU 05:30 Women Talking About Cars (b01z06y5)

THU 06:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b00zdl1w) Series 3, Episode 9

THU 06:30 The Way Out: The Disabled Avant-Garde (b00zdl1w)

THU 07:00 Maugham's The Keyhole (b00y4gcz) Episode 3

15 February 2005. With anti-war marches in London, Henry, a 40-something, vegetarian and health fanatic using his encyclopaedic railway knowledge to solve the audacious and ingenious crimes plaguing theEdwardian railways.

Edwardian detective Thope Hazelle is in many a man's way before his time: vegetarian and health fanatic using his encyclopaedic railway knowledge to solve the audacious and ingenious crimes plaguing the Edwardian railways.

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Jona Kattz, Cosmopolitan magazine’s Agony Aunt for over 40 years, talks to a different agony aunt from around the world for each programme in this series. She speaks to Aunt Lisa from America, India, Australia, Egypt and South Africa, and reflects on the universal and contrasting problems that occur in their particular society. These Aunts, many of whom have domestic women’s lives themselves, offer advice in their newspaper columns, on radio phones-in and on-line.

Jona draws on her ample experience to offer a useful perspective on their approach to problem solving. Together they discuss the problems specific to their communities and listeners hear examples of some of the letters they receive and the advice given.

Programme 5 Yusoufa el-Sharkawy, Egypt.

Yusoufa el-Sharkawy had an editor’s column in The Egyptian Gazette, an English speaking newspaper. Agony Aunts are usually older than the people who write to them, but Yusoufa is young - only 27 years old. Her career as an agony aunt began when she joined an all-women theatre troupe and began writing letters into helping her fellow actors with their problems. Her correspondents tend to be mothers, or her social and idealistic and Yusoufa deals with their concerns with a rational and mature approach.

The revolutionary events in Egypt mean that some of the women who write to her are alone and depressed. She talks to Jona about the position of women in her country and her frustration at being a faceless woman in a country where many women are far from liberation.

Produced by Romi Davis

13:45 15 Minute Drama (b014k97m)
Where’d You Go Bernadette?, Episode 9

Maria Semple’s brilliantly comic debut novel about misplaced genius and mother-daughter love, starring Miranda Richardson, Lydia Wilson, Richard Laing and Maclaine Patters.

5 year old boy has been preparing for a family trip to Antarctica, but the day before they are due to travel, his mother Bernardette vanishes. From her credit card charges, it appears that Bernardette has vanished to Antarctica on her own, but after that, the trail gets very cold indeed.

In today’s episode, Bette and her father Elgin travel to Antarctica to find Bernardette’s clues.

Adapted and directed by Emma Harding
About the author: Maria Semple has written for television shows, including Arrested Development, Mad About You, and Friends. She lives with her family on island off Seattle. This is her first novel.

14:45 Book of the Week (b014ld48)
Europe in the Looking Glass; Episode 4

In part four, the men discover the issues facing Greece between the wars.

Europe in the Looking Glass is Robert Byron’s travel classic, recounting a car journey across Europe in 1926, and providing a mirror on events and nationalities both then and today. Byron (a descendant of the poet) found acclaim as the author of The Road to Dionysia - an account of a trip to Afghanistan and Persia. The conclusion offers the travellers (and all of us) a new perspective on their homeland as well as the countries and cultures they explore together.

Read by Rupert Penry-Jones
Producer: David Roper
A Heavy entertainment production for BBC Radio 4.

15:00 Home Front - Omnibus (b014k97p)
Repeat of broadcast at 10:00 today

16:00 The Personality Test (b014k97v)
Repeat of broadcast at 09:00 today

17:00 Bristow (b014k97t)
Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today

17:30 The Fair Intellectual Club (b014k97f)
Repeat of broadcast at 09:30 today

18:00 Fraud Katha - Metamorphosis (b014k97h)
Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today

Sahiba and her family have moved to London. At first she finds life exciting, but her father turns on her. Read by Benedict Cumberbatch.

PRODUCTION NOTE

WhenGettyStreightshernameavaileman,amateurphotographerAndrewBradleyprobesomealarmingeventsinthevillageofWandles.

This shocking opening introduces one of the twentieth century’s most famous stories.

Gogar's family react with horror at his bizarre transformation but his story slowly turns to revulsion and then monotonous indifference as he is left to quietly waste away in his bed. Metamorphosis was first published in 1912.

Benedict Cumberbatch reads this surreal classic in four parts.

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To coincide with Dylan’s birthday (24 May 2011) presenter Emma Freud explores the singers spiritual journey revealing interviews. This week, the Professor of Ignorance John Lloyd and his curator Patrick Brennen come together and share their thoughts and spiritual beliefs through his songs and these memories of seeing him in green work trousers, a plaid shirt and an alligator ’. He felt the song was written for his father, who else?

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Glen Campbell also gave an interview for this programme. Shortly after the interview was recorded, Campbell went public about his diagnosis of Alzheimer's. His contribution to the programme is brief, and includes an acoustic performance of the song. It was a real privilege to record this, appropriately enough, down the line.

Producer: Karen Gregor.

FRI 19:00 Yes Minister (b007fjxg)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:00 today]

FRI 19:30 The Goon Show (b00fj188)
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:30 today]

FRI 20:00 EW Hornung - Raffles (b007jngf)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:00 today]

FRI 20:30 Blowing in the Wind: Dylan's Spiritual Journey (b041bh2)
[Repeat of broadcast at 06:30 today]

FRI 21:00 Thrilling Stories of the Railway (b00frespi)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:00 today]

FRI 21:15 Mrs Bradley - The Mystery of a Butcher's Shop (b00947vh)
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:15 today]

FRI 22:00 John Shuttleworth's Lounge Music (b0848sqq)
[Repeat of broadcast at 07:30 today]

FRI 22:45 Jigsaw (b01rgj27)
Series 1, Episode 6

FRI 22:55 The Comedy Club Interviews (b0875qex)
The best in contemporary comedy. Arthur Smith chats to Sophie Willan.

FRI 23:00 Armando Iannucci's Charm Offensive (b097v3z6)
Series 3, Episode 6
Armando Iannucci offers a heady mix of topical comedy, chat, bluster and kerfuffle with guests Stewart Lee and Mark Watson. From August 2007.

FRI 23:30 Hamish and Dougal: You'll Have Had Your Tea (b007k0x6)
Series 2, The Vampire of the Glen

FRI 23:45 Self Storage (b0jkgj9q)
The Storage Unit
No woman, no job. Dave has no choice but to store everything. With Reece Shearsmith and Mark Heap. From September 2007.