

Based On A True Story – Best Entertainment Programming (Subcity Radio)

Based on a True Story is a weekly show presented by two people, Tobi and Bicola or collectively Tobicola, as Tobi refuses to stop calling them. Although it has the occasional special features, it's generally a show that lives and breaths on its toes and is generally created by the conversational spark between the two presenters. It is the binding similarities and striking differences which create such lively banter between the two. Bicola being a multi-ethnic homosexual female and Tobi being a straight, white male they have pretty much all the bases covered.

The show is centred on the chemistry between these two, as it is completely unscripted and often unprepared; outside of a general playlist of about 8-9 songs chosen from about 20 brought each week. The general plan often was launched out of the window within the first minute of airtime, but was always there to go back to in a time of need. The proud inventors of the Audio- Hug and Audio High-Five, the two presenters create a blend of chaos and infectious joy to deliver an hour of surreal and sensational radio.

The one feature that was repeated every week was the Fact of The Week, which would be some funny, obscure or terrifying fact that Tobi has found each week. This included the fact that Sylvester Stallone believed his new Rambo instalment to be a bastion of hope amongst Burmese revolutionaries, or that an MP3 player to be installed in cosmetically altered breasts had been invented.

Whilst Tobi and Bicola were the main presenters, a host of show regulars were gradually acquired: the BOATS family. They included but were not limited to: Murray who provided diagrams from the green room until being upgraded to mike status, Sophie who was the producer who often giggled and failed to provide on promises of cakes and Tom who just wouldn't leave but had a lovely Irish Accent so was allowed to stay.

The most successful and entertaining feature of the year was probably the Christmas karaoke sing-along to Band Aid's "Do They Know It's Christmas", in which over 20 friends of the show were assigned a celebrity and played their parts to (near) perfection. Another highlight was the mid-spring hunt for the show's talker; an emailer who had taken out the email boatslover@hotmail.com and cryptically emailed the show for a few weeks. Also exciting was when the presenters staged a coup d'etat and roguishly thefted 25 minutes of the following show, and made it their own. The show was often frenzied and rarely according to plan, but it never failed to entertain and consistently created an atmosphere of warmth and laughter.