

PCNY Luncheon:
Hollywood on the Hudson: A Look at the National Entertainment Shows:
January 29, 2003

Lisa Kovitz, PCNY, Moderator

OK, so if you haven't been to a PCNY lunch before, the way we do questions is we ask you to stand up, say where you're from, and ask your question if you want to direct it to a particular panelist. And because I'm moderating I get to ask the first question:

So I wanted to make Nando work a little bit, and you can talk into the mic, because there are things that I think it would be helpful to know about, especially these new in-studio guests. Do we pitch you those or do we pitch the talent people or how is that?

Nando Velasquez: One of the things about working at a network is there's just so much red tape, there really is. Just like I said before, Joe Lasher handles our music section and we have John Wood, Juliet Knight, Camille Anderson handles TV stars, and Alicia Rubin, Andrea Schaffer, Jennifer Lupela (I'm just rambling these names in case any of them ring a bell) handles our fashion. They're usually, since they're the talent executives for the entire network, they're probably the best people to pitch. Anytime you have someone that you want to pitch for anything, they are probably the best people. However, and this is where all the red tape and the gray line comes in, if you have someone doing like a tour here in New York and either you can't reach them or you want to just make sure that we have a free spot, like if we have a free spot that they're available, you can send me a reminder, you can let me know. We always have meetings with all the following people in Los Angeles and with Tony Mali who is our live person out in Los Angeles. And she's always looking for guests, and sometimes someone's gonna cancel, and sometimes a talent executive's not gonna know that right away because he's not directly or she's not directly involved in our show. So I really totally appreciate any time someone's in New York. If you have someone to pitch, just send it over our way, at least we can just write it down and just have a note for it in case somebody cancels.

Lisa Kovitz: And, Nando, so they'd have to be available between 7 and??

Nando Velasquez: The show airs from 7-8 pm, so we'd usually ask them to come a little bit early and we try and figure out what block they have in. And we're located in Times Square, so it's pretty easy to get to.

Lisa Kovitz: And is there someone to do makeup, or they have to come in camera ready, or?

Nando Velasquez: No, unfortunately, we don't have, we're cable, we don't have make up. We have a make up room?

Lisa Kovitz: You have to bring your own person. OK, so that's great.