

Viktor Manoel: [00:00](#) Here's a big doozy. I just came into realizing that our friendship is based on possibilities.

For a punk ear, when it comes to music, music just sets the tone with the feelings and the expression of those feelings in creating beauty from ugly and art from our pain. There's no such thing as genre for us, it was just music to set the tone. And we set the groove on the Sakata movement of one, three, five, seven, and or skipping beats within that, like a strobe light effect or a glitch effect that nowadays you might see in videos.

So, there is no genre. Which comes to the thing of understanding and truth that disco had absolutely nothing to do with the original style. One, three, five, seven. One, three, five, seven. One, three, five, seven. One, three, five, seven. One and three and five and seven. One and three and seven. One, three, five, seven. One, three, five, seven. One and three and five. Five, five, five, five. One, three, five, seven. One, three, five, seven. One and three and five and seven. One and three and seven. One, three, five, seven. One, three, five, seven.

Disco had absolutely nothing to do with the original style.

Ashley Colours ...: [00:00](#) Hi Viktor.

Viktor Manoel: [01:46](#) Oh, wait. Got it. Hey there, girl. How are you?

Ashley Colours ...: [01:49](#) Good. How are you doing?

Viktor Manoel: [01:51](#) I'm good. Enjoying my empty space that was gutted and destroyed, and now into a new beginning.

Ashley Colours ...: [01:58](#) Yeah. So, this is our exciting kind of Bridgemakers Project for TDT, the dance theater, Ashley "Colors" Perez based in Toronto, originally from Calgary, Alberta, Canada. And Viktor, where are you from?

Viktor Manoel: [02:18](#) I am actually originally born in Mexico, but I live now in West Hollywood.

Ashley Colours ...: [02:23](#) You okay. You live now... And how long have you lived in West Hollywood?

Viktor Manoel: [02:28](#) For about 35 years. I grew up in Culver City, which is not far from here, by MGM Studios. When I came here as a child from Mexico, my parents, we immigrated to Culver City in 19... I think 66. That's a long time.

Ashley Colours ...: [02:44](#) Wow.

Viktor Manoel: [02:49](#) Mm-hmm (affirmative). I like everything by myself in privacy. It's my little world that I choose not to share. And so, that's how the artistic aspect came about. And then when we moved to the United States, I didn't want to let go of that. But I also used to study... I used to remember my Spanish because it was a comic book called Kaliman, that it was a superhero, a Mexican superhero that was actually Tibetan. Tibetan superhero. He could meditate. He could shape shift. He could do all of that stuff.

So I was fascinated by this story. And around that time also with a comic book, because I was around six when it came out, because I kept on reading it in the United States, there was a flute Sonata they used to play every time one of the villains, which was a vampire, used to come out.

So, I remember starting to love classical music because of this vampire. It was a radio show. So every time, you know he was coming because of music played.

Speaker 9: [03:52](#) [Spanish 00:04:04].

Viktor Manoel: [04:08](#) And that's where my fascination towards classical music started, in my imagination of listening to radio and knowing characters will come in with certain music or soundtrack.

Ashley Colours ...: [04:21](#) For some of us that is like...

Viktor Manoel: [04:24](#) A third world.

Ashley Colours ...: [04:26](#) We're in this like social media where everything is visual. I'm from the generation that I know pre computers, pre-internet. So I know that. I'm very television based, and it's really interesting to hear you talk about the sound of radio and radio-

Viktor Manoel: [04:51](#) Oh yeah.

Ashley Colours ...: [04:51](#) Shows and radio stories.

Viktor Manoel: [04:53](#) Yeah.

Ashley Colours ...: [04:55](#) Because a lot of us, we listen to podcasts and stuff, but we don't ever, some of us don't really know what the production value on a radio show used to be.

Viktor Manoel: [05:04](#) At all. Exactly. Wait, where's my phone and see if I can't find... Yeah. So, I mean, I grew up with radio, so my imagination was always... Songs, artist, John Russ, classical. Here we go.

Ashley Colours ...: [05:24](#) Mm. How did you get into your classes?

Viktor Manoel: [05:28](#) What you mean classes?

Ashley Colours ...: [05:30](#) Your ballet classes?

Viktor Manoel: [05:32](#) Oh no, no, no. Well, that didn't happen until after. That didn't happen until like '79, '80.

Ashley Colours ...: [05:36](#) Okay. Where are we in the timeline though? You just-

Viktor Manoel: [05:39](#) Right now, we in the club, it was we each said '74, '75.

Ashley Colours ...: [05:39](#) Okay.

Viktor Manoel: [05:44](#) Then I knew that I saw my friends dance and I was like, I can do that because I'm basically just doing a deer dance, which is behavior.

Ashley Colours ...: [05:52](#) Deer Dance. Yep.

Viktor Manoel: [05:53](#) And then, we would talk about movies and then we would just do little movie vignettes and movement.

Ashley Colours ...: [05:59](#) Okay.

Viktor Manoel: [05:59](#) And then we would talk about books and Larry Carr, which is where all the posing came from. The pictures.

Ashley Colours ...: [06:06](#) Fabulous four.

Viktor Manoel: [06:07](#) Yeah. That's where the pictures came from, which is why the first element for punking was posing.

Ashley Colours ...: [06:13](#) Posing.

Viktor Manoel: [06:14](#) Posing was the first element and movement and our deco poses and making like a mini silent movie. That's really what it was, a mini silent movie in behavior.

Ashley Colours ...: [06:27](#) Can you tell me, maybe, can you pick maybe of the three most popular movies that you were taking out, those vignettes at that time? So in like 1974, 1975.

Viktor Manoel: [06:39](#) And '76 and '77.

Ashley Colours ...: [06:42](#) Okay. What are the movies? What are the movie scenes?

Viktor Manoel: [06:47](#) One of the, of course, Sunset Boulevard.

Ashley Colours ...: [06:48](#) Okay. Classic, fabulous.

Viktor Manoel: [06:50](#) Uh-huh (affirmative). King Kong.

Ashley Colours ...: [06:52](#) King Kong. Okay.

Viktor Manoel: [06:54](#) And the...

Ashley Colours ...: [06:55](#) What part of King Kong, like on top of the skyscraper, or?

Viktor Manoel: [06:59](#) Honey, when she's in the hand.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:00](#) Oh, she's in the hand and she's like, oh...

Viktor Manoel: [07:02](#) And she's tied up.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:04](#) Okay.

Viktor Manoel: [07:05](#) I mean, come on.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:06](#) I know. I'm...

Viktor Manoel: [07:07](#) Watch these movies without the sound.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:10](#) Without the sound.

Viktor Manoel: [07:10](#) Watch any, well, watch any action movies without sound. You will get so much, so much information to move.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:19](#) Okay.

Viktor Manoel: [07:20](#) And why do I say that? Is because we all lived at home, as well. So when we would come home late at night, we would watch movies without sound.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:26](#) Yeah.

Viktor Manoel: [07:26](#) So we would just steal the movement.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:29](#) Yeah. One other movie because we had...

Viktor Manoel: [07:32](#) And then one more movie was the Bride of Frankenstein when she's alive.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:37](#) Okay. She's alive.

Viktor Manoel: [07:39](#) And she would be like this. Look.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:43](#) Oh, the neck would go.

Viktor Manoel: [07:45](#) Oh yeah.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:45](#) Work.

Viktor Manoel: [07:47](#) Yeah. And art deco and all of it, anything art deco that we would catch our hands on. But the main movie was Sunset Boulevard.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:56](#) The main queen.

Viktor Manoel: [07:57](#) Any [crosstalk 00:07:57] movie.

Ashley Colours ...: [07:59](#) The queen bee.

Viktor Manoel: [08:00](#) The queen bee, the original. Yeah.

Ashley Colours ...: [08:02](#) Okay.

Viktor Manoel: [08:04](#) And then any Busby Berkeley movie that had overhead shots of people doing shapes for floor.

Ashley Colours ...: [08:10](#) Overhead shots.

Viktor Manoel: [08:12](#) Busby Berkeley, look him up.

Ashley Colours ...: [08:17](#) Okay. See, I'm getting schooled. This is why I... Keeping me on my toes, Viktor.

Viktor Manoel: [08:43](#) That's another thing, artistically do you feel nourished when we speak, and does it give you a different point of view on how to do things?

Ashley Colours ...: [08:50](#) I feel nourished. I feel more overwhelmed. Like I bought too many groceries and I don't know how where to put everything, which is...

Viktor Manoel: [08:59](#) Can I speak to you?

Ashley Colours ...: [09:01](#) Yeah. Which is very interesting for me, because I'm not used to receiving so much information. You're very generous with your information.

Viktor Manoel: [09:12](#) Oh, thank you.

Ashley Colours ...: [09:13](#) And your time and your space, I guess. And then that's the thing with food and nourishment where it's just there's so much there. Some are fresh, some are canned, some you got to put away for another day. And I'm just like, how do I organize this? How do I share this knowledge or this meal? Who is going to come over and really appreciate this knowledge? So I feel nourished, but I also feel nourished long term.

Viktor Manoel: [09:55](#) There you go.

Ashley Colours ...: [10:39](#) Small talk, but I like long form talking. So when I'm on my phone with my friends, it is a, do you have an hour? Do you have three hours? Let's really talk because people are... When you find trustworthy people and honest people that get you, they're really interesting. People are very interesting. And it's interesting, the friends that you keep around you are not the friends that I thought would be my friends.

Viktor Manoel: [11:12](#) Well, oh yeah. Well, this is another thing about friendship That you've noticed. I have very few friends.

Ashley Colours ...: [11:18](#) Yeah.

Viktor Manoel: [11:22](#) And I came to the conclusion three years ago of why that was.

Ashley Colours ...: [11:27](#) Mm.

Viktor Manoel: [11:30](#) And it's not, for me, it's not as sad as it's going to sound

Ashley Colours ...: [11:35](#) Okay.

Viktor Manoel: [11:37](#) But what's the point of making friends when you know they're going to die?

Ashley Colours ...: [11:41](#) You know, you have that survivor's guilt. And I also share that with being a cancer survivor, as well. It's like, why am I going to try?

Viktor Manoel: [11:57](#) I think that's why we live our life the way we live it. Because you went through that and I went through the loss. And the interesting for me, when you go through such heavy loss or

experience in life that's traumatizing, that is why I keep dancing to keep vomiting that trauma.

- Ashley Colours ...: [12:15](#) Mm-hmm (affirmative).
- Viktor Manoel: [12:15](#) So for me, talking doesn't make sense to talk about the trauma.
- Ashley Colours ...: [12:22](#) Okay.
- Viktor Manoel: [12:22](#) For me, it's artistically I express it.
- Ashley Colours ...: [12:22](#) Yeah.
- Viktor Manoel: [12:24](#) Because I do look at my stuff, believe you me. And I'm like, okay, Victor, you're a freak.
- Ashley Colours ...: [12:31](#) Super freak, super freak.
- Viktor Manoel: [12:35](#) I don't know where that came from.
- Ashley Colours ...: [12:37](#) Yeah.
- Viktor Manoel: [12:37](#) But even to the point that let me see if I can find a voicemail that I put... Where is it? Where's my book?