

THE HAMILCAST

EPISODE 279 WARREN EGYPT FRANKLIN PART 2 TRANSCRIPT

[00:00:00] Hi, I'm stage and stage's Lin-Manuel Miranda, and you're listening to the Hamilcast.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:00:19] Hello, everyone, I'm Gillian. Welcome back to the Hamilcast. Today picks up where we left off last week with Warren Egypt Franklin from Hamilton's Phillip Company. If you missed Episode 278, make sure you start there. Warren tells his incredible Hamilton story, talks about how being a freshman in college playing graffiti Pete turned into the opportunity of a lifetime and how, through manifesting and hard work, he ended up booking Hamilton two weeks after graduation. It's an amazing story, so inspiring. You definitely don't want to miss it. Oh, plus the craziness of doing four shows in 48 hours and very important stage door do's and don'ts. So if you're all caught up, let's get back into it. Here's part two of my conversation with Warren.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:01:00] So before we get in to the Patreon Peeps, I would love to know, you told me you have some stuff going on that you wanted to tell me about. So obviously, we'll get back to Hamilton and fun to our stuff. But you told me that there's like some stuff that no one knows about. So you're going to tell some secrets. What's going on?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:01:18] So I haven't, I am currently in L.A. because I've been shooting since February. I am playing Dez on season four of Grownish, the hit show on Freeform and Hulu.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:01:37] Congratulations. That's incredible. You're also an excellent secret keeper.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:01:38] Oh my God, it's been great. Yeah. So they added two recurring roles to this season and it's been so great being on TV and not only being on TV, but being added to a show that is a number one comedy on Hulu and Freeform. Being able to wake up and go film at Walt Disney Studios has been a dream because I'm such a Disney nerd and a Disney kid. So to be able to shoot on a lot where so many of my favorite movies was shot and so many of my favorite animations were drawn out to be on set with so many actors and people I look up to, I'm in the same episode as Jennifer Lewis and

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Laurence Fishburne and Kenya Barris is one of my executive producers. And Yara Shahidi, and I can't say too much, but my costar, I'm obsessed with her because her story and everything she's doing right now grinding in the game is doing amazing things, that it's been a dream also to play this character a time this comes out, it'll probably he will introduce himself. He's one of the first masculine presenting queer people. So he identifies as pansexual, but he's he's masculine. And like so many times, as thankful as I am for the poses of the world and and shows like that, that has given us like manged, like me being queer and fabulous and beautiful mainstream. There are also people who you wouldn't like, but that also just got what is gay look like, what is what is bisexual look like, what is pansexual look like, what is lesbianism look like, what what are these things and what do they have a look to them. Of course they don't have a look to them. You can be masculine presenting and. And be as masculine or feminine as you want to and identify or not identify however you please, and I just don't feel like we've had a character like this on the show. And the producers are so excited because not only is this an interesting character for the show, but I don't think we've seen anything like this on TV, too, on cable TV. So it's going to be so interesting. The story arc is crazy, but I can't wait for everybody to watch. The show premieres July 8th. I think I come in on like the fourth episode. It's about time we get to this. I would have already been on it, but yeah, it comes on Freeform. I want to say Thursday night I'm not sure so don't quote me on that, but you can watch it on Freeform and then the next day it's on Hulu. But to be working on this has been a dream and I also did some writing out here and that time this dropped my single chemistry will be out that I've been working on. Yeah, working on a single because now I'm signed to a label. I keep a lot of secrets, I keep a lot of secrets and I remove a lot of things from the Internet because I just like what my rollout's and stuff to be like, perfect and seamless with like my publicist and my agents and things.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:04:56] Yeah I hear you. And thank you for you know, I'm thrilled to be able to talk to you about this. This is all so exciting

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:05:03] By The time this comes out. My single chemistry will be out and chemistry is a great song. And I wanted to I, I auditioned for The Voice when I was 17 and I

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got through and made it to the next round. And I don't think people realize that to be drama. But like the voice, it's reality TV. They are looking for stories and they're not looking for voices. They're looking for stories. And they kind of want to change my image and like, set me up. And like, I just really wasn't interested in that. And they also wanted to box me like I want to create an album where the first song is an R&B song, the second, longest pop, the third longest rock. The fourth song is Country Like I Want. I think the greatest example of a multi-channel album is Beyonce's Eliminate or even Beyonce. It makes multi genre. My friends were having a conversation last night because we were like, what would you consider Countdown? And they were like, it's RB, it's pop, it's reggae. It's like, you know, like all of these like it literally multigenre. And that's what music does. It's the universal language that transcends every single single line. Music just makes you feel good. You know, I'm a fan and I'm I want to make music like that. And I have been able to make music like that. And I've been recording and working on this EP and the EP in the early stage. I don't know if the EP will will be out by the time this airs, but the single will definitely be out. It's called Chemistry. I collaborated with some people from London on the record to write it and produce it and it's amazing, truthful R&B song about really loving someone and connecting with them. But like once, you know, you ever had that relationship where it's like, but what's wrong? Like, everything feels just about right, but something's wrong. Like you have everything, but like you don't have that one thing and it's like maybe that and like the hook goes, maybe that's the problem. There's no more chemistry, like, you know, I mean, like maybe maybe that's what it is. I'm so excited that my label believes in me and it's something good because I want to we don't have male mainstream artists who like to perform like I'm a performer. I want to dance. I want to I want to sing. I want to have stage design and dancers and be like Michael Jackson and Beyonce, Tina and Usher, you know, like that's my dream. So I've been working on that. So I had my hand in music. Right now I have my hand in TV making the transition from like Broadway where of the TV and been off to do Hamilton. So I've been silently working on a lot of projects over here.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:07:41] That's all incredible. And I was going to ask, wait, are you so you will be joining the Philip tour when it picks up as well. So you're just...

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Warren Egypt Franklin [00:07:50] The great thing about being home grownish is we wrap up, we shoot the last episode next week, which is crazy because we've been filming this in a pandemic. So it's really crazy that, like, everything is like changed during the course of filming. But yeah, we filmed the last episode next week and thankfully that will that'll be over. And I have a few weeks. I'm actually going to go out to London for a couple of weeks and record some songs for the EP. Then I'm going to come over and get ready to gear up to go to Atlanta to start performing for Hamilton

Gillian Pensavalle [00:08:24] Yeah. Are you going to be in New York at all?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:08:27] I don't think so. I have friends and people that like I love and family that I miss in New York City, but like I just don't. Have a reason to be in New York, like my measurements and my costume fittings for Hamilton has been here in L.A. because, you know, they have the L.A. company. So I've been everything that I've needed has been here in L.A. So I don't have a reason to be in New York City. But I love I love New York and I miss New York.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:08:54] Sure Yeah. Because I thought maybe because I knew, you know, before all of all of this, you know, all the rehearsals were in New York. I was going to say, you know, next time you're in New York coming up, we'll hang

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:09:02] Oh, my gosh, I would love to, but yeah, I don't know if something changes. I would definitely hit you up, but I don't think I don't think I'm going to be in New York because I think when I get back from London, I will be I'll have to go right off to Atlanta just because we start rehearsals. We start rehearsals for Hamilton in Atlanta July 25th. My tour does.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:09:24] All right. So, I mean, there's plenty of time we will hang out

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:09:29] all the time. All the time.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:09:31] So, Warren, the time has come. Are you ready to take some questions from the Patreon Peeps?

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Warren Egypt Franklin [00:09:37] So before you answer the questions, the thing about me that you should know what I love being asked question.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:09:44] Oh, my God.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:09:45] Look, I know some people get excited. I love questions. I love that question. I love, like, crazy questions. I love, like, intrusive. Like, I just I'm a freaking question. I think, like, my love language is like asking me questions and playlists. I make all kinds of playlists with music, like music and questions are like my love, which definitely

Gillian Pensavalle [00:10:04] when you come and hang out with me in New York, my husband got us this game. It's like a card game. It's called like it's called I think it's called mixtape and all. It's just it's a card game. And you take a card and it's like, you know, you just robbed a bank and you're driving off into the sunset. What is the song that you would play

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:10:22] I need to get this

Gillian Pensavalle [00:10:24] its a great party game because it's just you pass the phone around and everyone plays their song and then I think you vote on something or other. I never play it by the rules. I just listen to, you know, we just play it listening to everyone's songs. But I feel like that's a game you would love between the questions and music

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:10:39] Oh, my God. I'm going to I'm going to try to see my friends for a little like fun break after I wrap the show. So I definitely think I'm going to I'm literally going to order that. Yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:10:50] I think it's like a little bigger than a deck of cards. Like, it's you could take it. It's a travel game. It's so, so, so much fun. So we definitely have to do that when you come over.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:10:59] Absolutely. I would love to.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:11:01] OK, so yes. Warren, are you ready to take questions from the Patreon Peep.

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Warren Egypt Franklin [00:11:05] I am so ready

Gillian Pensavalle [00:11:33] OK, Cassie is saying, look, you got to ask him about that video of his first time doing a sinus rinse, I don't remember if it was with Fergie or Eli, but they made him do it and he flipped a shit. And I don't even know if it helped

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:11:46] The fans remember everything. Yes, that sinus rinse was, I remember it. I remember that day.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:11:53] So walk us through it, because it's not I think it was on someone's insta live, so it's not saved. So just if the listeners are like, what the hell happened? So just walk us through it, please.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:12:03] So, guys, you know, being on tour, another reason I think tour people are super heroes. Your allergies change your allergies, change the weather. The weather's hot, the weather, it changes the the the climate, the water, the like out. It's like so anything changes that really affect your face, your body, your health, like everything. And for whatever reason, what we got to Grand Rapids people and our cars were dropping like flies. Like if anyone is a real Hamilton fan, you know, that like if you come see Hamilton on a matinee and a night like you, more than likely won't will not get the same exact cast. There's always going to be one or two people switching. That's just like how our nature of our show runs. But when I tell you it was so crazy, this city, it was like you could roll the dice and that's how, you know, if we're going to be on. It was like you just did not know because so many people were sick. There was some plague going around where it was literally crazy. A lot of people still think to day that it was COVID before we knew it was COVID, but I'm not sure exactly. But we were all sick. I steaming with not doing it for me, like I needed to, like, get all of this stuff out of me. So everyone was like, do it like neti pot. nasal rinse and I was like, what is that? So I did it. And when I see that fucking sailin shit salt thing that I sprayed up my nose, it cleared me out. But it's like I kind of swallowed it. And it kind of went down the wrong pipe and like it was, it was a mess, but it did what it was supposed to do for, for that show.

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Gillian Pensavalle [00:13:40] Look, before 2020 came along, I would get sinus infections a couple times a year. They're horrifying. I hate them.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:13:48] Oh, my God, they're so bad.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:13:49] I had the same experience where it was like and it wasn't the neti pot. It was I use it was like the the little squeeze bottle, the bottle that you just.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:13:56] Yeah, that's and that's what I used. I think it essentially does the same shit as in any pot, but like. Yeah, it's just like a squeezable.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:14:03] Yes you do kind of swallow and you can feel it. So this is like maybe I should have given like a content warning with this. We're talking about it like goes up one nostril and out the other. And then the other thing, too, you have to remember is you can't do it right before bed because the whole point that it starts to get everything in your face moving around and then if it moves and then you lay down, then it kind of making the sinus infection worse. So that's just a little word to the wise. Um, yeah. I haven't been sick since January of 2020.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:14:35] Wow. That's great.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:14:36] Thanks. It's the masks. I'm telling you, it's the masks.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:14:39] I mean probably yeah. I got sick in January of twenty twenty one. I usually always get sick. I got sick really bad. January twenty twenty January 2021. Right, right around my birthday was at the end of January either right before or right after. I get really, really sick for whatever reason. It's like it's new age so you have to get sick. And I had a really good immune system. So thankfully I only get sick once, but when I do, it's really bad. And because COVID, without this year and with everything going on, when I got sick earlier in the year, ah shit I have covid. I went I couldn't taste anything I can smell. I was like, wait, there's no I have covid. There's no way. Like, if I can't taste or smell, there's no other sickness that does that. I was like, I have definitely like her body aches. I couldn't get out of there. I couldn't

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even work out it was so bad. I went and got three different tests. Negative, negative, negative.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:15:34] She continues, she says, sans any existing proof of that silly sinus rinse video that you probably want to sink it to the black hole of our memories. What was it like coming into the Philip tour Sons of Liberty. They're such a rowdy and raucous crew. Did it take you a bit to match the existing level of hype or were you already there? Because we look the Philip tour, we've had so many Nik Walker's been on this podcast eight thousand times. I went to Vegas to hang out with the Phillip Tour. The film tour is the stuff of legend in terms of their energy level.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:16:04] When I saw their show, because I had only seen I basically seen Hamilton three times because I saw original Broadway company. Then I saw Broadway again before I joined. And then of course, the first night you get to tour, when you join any tour, the first night you get there, you watch your cast. And I was like, whoa, this is wow. They are this is a lot of energy. I love that. Like, I love, love, love, love, love, love, that. It was interesting, I think the reason we mesh so well is because Fergie and Kyle exited together, so me and Desmond kind of got what we wanted to do. But at the same time, I tell people the hardest thing for me about Hamilton was I was the first replacement on our tour. So they had no idea about Hamilton. So Erin Clemens took over for Shoba, our original Eliza, but Erin Clemens had did it on Broadway already, so it was very easy for her to come over. She didn't have that much rehearsal time. Like when I came to Hamilton, I knew nothing. And I was the first replacement on our tour for a lead like brand spanking new. So I learned the whole show completely alone in the rehearsal room by myself. I didn't have any one. And then Des had already covered Mul/Mad, so he didn't need rehearsal. He didn't rehearse with me in, his vacation was right before he had before he had debut. So I did everything alone. I did every single thing alone. And I was scared. I was like, what if Elijah like what if, we had never talked about actually, which is funny. But I was like, what if we don't mesh, or what if me and desmon dont mesh, like we or what if it doesn't work out. And literally it is the best pairing ever. We all like balance each other out. One thing that Patrick Vassel says when he came to that is like this energy that and like some of the nuances and things that you have no other company does. And like you guys

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have just kind of like built into your show. But like, it's just real brotherhood. And we'll be on tour. We see each other every day. We want to share a dressing room with each other. We don't want to be by ourselves. We want to share a dressing room with each other. We're always blasting tunes before the show. We have so many rituals, we'll go out to eat breakfast and brunch with each other. It's it's actually a real brotherhood. I talked to Desmond two days ago and I talked to Elijah yesterday. You know, I mean, like, we're a real it's a real family, the sons of Liberty for the Hamilton Phillip tour there's nothing fake about it. Those are my brothers. I think Desmond is at home in Arkansas and Elijah is like an hour drive for me here in Cali. If either one of them call me right now, but I need you. I would stop every

Gillian Pensavalle [00:18:54] 100%. I love that. And yeah, Diana saying, you know, let's hear about Krystal Friday. How did you start free styling and did you and Eli do your freestyle Fridays before or after their performances? So if people are just joining us, if you haven't listened to the Eli episodes, go back and listen to those. But can you please tell the listeners what freestyle Friday is and then let Diana know what's up?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:19:13] Absolutely. Freestyle Friday kind of started in Oklahoma City. It was right when I got there and it was kind of like a joke to me. I was like, oh, I kind of want to, like, get on because we have like a little break within the only break in the show. I have it during take a break because take a break goes in to say no to this. So that's the only little break that I have. And Elijah not doing anything either. And it turned into being funny and just being like, we should take a break. It happens to be a Friday. And we were like Freestyle Friday. If you feel and just like rapping about like random stupid shit. And then we were putting our stories and then people were like, oh, you should, you guys should do a topic on this and that and this. That's been like we started doing it live. And then the people in our question board like, what do you want to see on freestyle Friday? And it turned into like a bigger thing that we had no idea it would turn into. And actually, for a minute, I thought we should stop because I'm like, oh, I'm tired of blah, blah. And he was like the fans love Freestyle Friday. And I think they do. And they're like, looking at the comments, people are like, why don't you guys do

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freestyle Friday last Friday? No, whoa, whoa, whoa. OK, it's like people really do love this, so.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:21:50] Yeah. It's fun. And sometimes we have guests and we'll have like we won't do it during take a break or that time that we have, because then we'll have someone maybe on stage who could be on stage to do it. So I think we're going to make it even a bigger thing than we have when we get back. But it's fun and sometimes like it's terrible. Sometimes I get a topic and I'm like, how am I supposed to rap with that? And then I listen back to it. And I'm like, you were saying stupid mushmouth thing. Like, that's the thing. No one cares. We're all having fun. No one's getting an extra pay bump to do freestyle Friday. We're just like having a good time. And it's it's fun.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:22:27] And that's the beauty of freestyle. It's like it's yes. The nature of freestyle. The beauty of freestyle. And you're also it's just another way for the for the fans of Hamilton and of you to feel connected. That's really all that is. And, you know, it became I think people loved it. They were looking forward to it because, yeah, they did feel connected to you and Eli and the show in some way. But it also became like topical. It would be Black Friday or Thanksgiving or Christmas or, you know, it just became what was going on and not just your lives, but then all of our lives. And I think it was another way for the people at home to really feel connected to you.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:23:05] Yeah, I love, love, love, love, love, free stuff Friday.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:23:09] Yeah, I'm excited for it to come to, Lisa says. Speaking of Oklahoma City, Lisa says, I saw Warren in one of his first performances as Lafayette, Jefferson and Oklahoma City, and he was phenomenal, she says. My question, do you feel like your performance of either or both characters has evolved since you first took on the role? Can't wait to see you light up the stage again someday soon.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:23:29] Oh, my God. Yes, my are so my debut in Oklahoma City was not only my first time, it was my first time in costume with the full company, with the band, with the lights, with everything like it was. That was the first time

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they like all the pieces were there, all the pieces and the people were there was in front of like three thousand people in Oklahoma City. So I was so nervous. And although I remember so much from that, I remember nothing as well, if that makes any kind of sense. And my performance has evolved so much, and not just from Oklahoma City. My performance has evolved from from Grand Rapids to Toronto. And they were back to back. I feel like what this role specifically, you always have to be willing to to get notes and to learn and to grow and to also adjust that to who you're on stage with.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:24:23] Sure Of course

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:24:24] You never want to get my worst thing, I hate working with people who get, like, so stuck in something in a group because like who? Piers Hamilton is not who Nick Sanchez Hamilton is who Nik Walker's Burr is is definitely not what Jerry Dixon's Burr is. So it's completely, completely, completely different. And you I have to pull back. I step it up or just make a different choice simply based on who's on stage. And I think that's actually the cool thing about Hamilton is because there's so many like cast switching all the time, you you have to be on your P's and Q's and you have to live in the moment and not be on autopilot because you don't know what that person is going to give you or you don't know if it's going to be on. And I know it freaks some people up. I like it. I kind of like we listen to our music loud as shit in our dressing room, so sometimes we can't hear the call. I like that here in the call, and I like getting on stage and not knowing who I'm going to act with. I love it. I love sometimes I turn around and I'll be like Alexander Hamilton and I'm like, oh, shit. He's on tonight. Like, that's so cool. Like, I know he has a different energy or Blaine's playing Hamilton tonight, this is going to be crazy because he's well, he's amped up like, you know what I mean? Like, I love I love change. I think I think it's cool. I think it makes you a better actor. I think it makes you a more receivable actor and some something that a swing or a standby might give me might inspire me to put that in my show full time and discuss it with residents of like yo. I made that choice last night and I love that. Would you think about that or be like, yo, that's what I did last night was completely trash. Probably should never do that. But like, I'm learning and I'm growing. And I think the moment you, like, freeze your show to to make it something so solid that you never want to change

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anything again, then you you've kind of messed up because you you've locked in on something and then you're in no room to grow. And if there's no room to grow, you shouldn't, in my opinion, do something anymore.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:26:26] Yeah, well, it's growing and it's also listening. Yeah. If you're really paying attention to what is going on around you and listening to people. Yeah. That's why it's. It's the show is the show, and these people are not shlubs off the street, they're making choices and it's amazing to see that's my favorite. They look at the insert who is oh, my God, who's on who's who's who? Like, it's so awesome.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:26:50] I think it's so cool. And I think every swing and every cover is just as good as whatever track they are going on for. And that's what makes it so cool, because the way that Angelica acts with that, Hamilton is not going to be how she acts with that Hamilton and like, you know what I mean? Like, I think and I know some actors would even disagree with me and some audience members. They don't like that. I think it's so fucking cool personally.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:27:15] But Katie is asking, she says, you know, a serious question. If it fits into the flow, she's asking, take us through your process of portraying Jefferson as written in Hamilton, the musical, given his horrific views and actions regarding people of color.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:27:31] Yeah, I just I did. We do. Our eduham is now kind of through through Lerner. We do a deep dove of text with historians and with professors and teachers. And I got that question a lot. And I think what some somebody else said this. I think maybe the George Washington on And Peggy or something. But my response, when people are like, how can you play a character that little white? And I'm like, I'm playing it knowing that Thomas Jefferson, if I if I looked like this in the sense of my skin color and who I am, if I was around during those times, I would probably be a slave because I'm not, like, dark enough to be out in the field. So some people would consider me like a slave. You probably would pay me no attention. He probably would degrade me, maybe maybe sell me whatever. Like he wasn't a great person to black people as a lot of white people weren't back then. But I get the satisfaction of knowing I am a man of color. I get to go on stage every night

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and I get to rip this to shreds and make people fall in love with me. And I get to portray the story that that Lin saw. We don't we don't really touch on slavery. I'm not on stage whipping people and doing things like that. Or I wouldn't I would never be a part of it. Also, I don't think Hamilton would be what it is today, but I'm not. We're telling a story of Alexander Hamilton, who also wasn't like the greatest of guys things that he did. You know what I mean? But we're not. We're telling a story of persistence and passion and love and tenacity and climb to the top of a system that wasn't built for us, portrayed by people who look like us. And I think that's really what the point of it is. But, yeah, I don't I'm not thinking about I'm not thinking about a slavery or I'm not thinking about the people who they were. I'm thinking about the rappers that they are. I'm thinking about that, the narcissist that he is. And the more so Mick Jagger Prince Rum TugTugger Fiero kind of people that I've modeled the character off of, but not Thomas Jefferson. I like I kind of like calling my character TJ instead of Thomas Jefferson because like, TJ is completely different from Thomas Jefferson, you know what I mean? So, like.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:30:05] Totally.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:30:06] Yeah, I really don't. I don't I don't think about it because we don't essentially I don't play Thomas Jefferson historically. We're playing Thomas Jefferson in the end in the context of Hamilton, you know, so it's easy to to not think about that. But I also think as bad as that, like my TJ was modeled after Thomas Jefferson, someone who doesn't like black people. It's like, OK, you don't love us. You didn't really fight for us. But now this black ass man is portraying you in one of the biggest shows ever. And also, I used to get really upset, really, really, really upset because a lot of black people can't afford to see the show.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:30:46] Absolutely.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:30:46] And this is a show for us by us. And it's disheartening to look out and it's exhausting to to look out into the audience every night and see all of these like people like all of these white people. But in that same breath, all of these white people have to watch me. All these white people have paid to come see me. And their version of who Thomas Jefferson was is change because it's portrayed by. So in the

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same breath, much that hurts the more black people cannot see the show. It's great that these white people, who some of them may be racist or a closed minded who see in Hamilton because like their wife dragged them or whoever dragged them is like one. Now you are forced to sit up here and watch me be black and be excellent. So how you like them apples, you know what I mean? So, yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:31:35] Yes, yes, and it's also it's one of the many things that needs to change after we've all taken this reset, as horrifying as it's all been, that can be another another conversation to have it should Broadway and theater should be way more accessible across the board.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:31:52] Yeah, that's why I love Eduham's, because we get the chance for the kids, is just one of my favorite things, like we get to perform for the kids and they are the reason for all of this because they're going to be playing the role. So, you know.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:32:04] Yeah, that they get they perform their own pieces inspired by its.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:32:09] The best. So amazing.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:32:10] Tracy is asking, well, first question aint Elijah's Mama grand? I'll send the check as soon as you answer nephew

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:32:18] Auntie! Elijah's mama is the best of all time. And that's just that on that.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:32:24] So check is in the mail at subquestion too. Does Auntie or do I say aunt your auntie? I say auntie, but I think it's also auntie.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:32:34] But like Auntie. OK, you know Auntie A.. Whoever.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:32:37] So question two, does Auntie Jackie have made the stallion knees or is it Peg the donkey? And then in parentheses, she says a reference to the 2019 Tennessee New Year's Eve party. Is she telling tales out of school? Whats going on?

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Warren Egypt Franklin [00:32:48] You know, there was there was a pretty wild New Year's Eve party we had in Nashville. That was also that was a day that was, that was, that was a show that was just like we should have known that 20-20 was going to be shit from the way that that that whole night was. But we're going to give her mega stallion's, we're going to say. And I was the of it. Yes, we're going to say that. But that night was crazy. I know you I don't know if anyone had talked about it from our show on here before, but you know how that went. Not even then. When we come out, bup bup bup bup, bup, bup and you know, the turntable starts just so we can go halfway so it can stop so that the pattern, everything is set up. So when we got on stage, everyone tripped because we noticed that the turntable we didn't notice at the time, but we were like, whoa, but it was because the turntable was going the other way. And so most people would be like, well, what's the difference if something's going if you're used to something going this way? If the turntable was going this way, you have to you have to step with the turntable. If it's going down, you have to step right. Going. You know what I mean by first. Yes, but it went the other way. Everyone was thrown. Everyone trip. We all look goofy. We kind of like, laughed about it, got over it. But then we noticed not only was it going the wrong way, it wasn't stopping. So during my shot in Nashville, Tennessee, if you saw it on New Year's Eve, you saw in my shot that had the turntable going the entire time of my shot. It would not stop.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:34:21] That sounds like a prank.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:34:22] It did sound like a prank, but like it was scary in the moment because they actually kind of dangerous because they this set pieces being thrown and moved off them like all these things. But like our ensemble came and they moved everything. And instead of us rapping at the tavern, we kind of rap center stage and we're like kind of like switch places of like who was next. And it was kind of like a like a freestyle cipher and like, OK, you're in the middle. You got like a dance club and party instead of like rapping at the table. And it was really cool how we all rallied to to get everything off stage and get everything together. And then, you know, the moment that Hamilton comes in for the freeze when everything comes, that was when it stopped

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Warren Egypt Franklin [00:35:15] I'm sure if you had never seen the show before, you thought it was so cool, but we were terrified and we should have known that 2020 was going to be a disaster from that show itself.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:35:26] Hindsight is literally 20/20 at this point,

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:35:30] That was a turntable screaming, no, I want to go backwards. I don't want to go into 2012. Please leave me and come back. But we didn't we didn't hear the turntable cry at the time.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:35:40] That turntable is this mystical, magical being. Now she knows

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:35:44] all she knows at all.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:35:45] So Chris and her Hamilkid Joey are asking a couple of questions. What book is on your nightstand or in your Kindle or tablet?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:35:54] I actually just started rereading one of my favorite books of all time. I love, love, love, love. I love that book. And that was like one of the first books I fell in love with as a kid. And yeah, I'm starting to reread it.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:36:05] Do you reread it often or is this one of the first times you've reread it?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:36:09] This is this is the first time I've reread since, like, I don't know, maybe like middle school. I've read this is like the third time I read it when I was like fourth or fifth grade as like my teacher, my English teacher, like, presented the book to us as like a lesson. And then we read it again in middle school because I was writing a show that wasn't great because I was in middle school, but it was like loosely based off of that. And then now I'm like restarting it.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:36:33] Oh, cool.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:36:34] I Don't read as much as I should. And it's because as an actor we just get so many

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auditions for scripts and things like My life is reading scripts so I don't get to like read literature for fun as much as I want to. But I've been like trying to get back to that. But I just read so many scripts for auditions and things. I'm just like after reading all of those, you just kind of want to turn off and read a little bit. That makes sense

Gillian Pensavalle [00:36:59] 100% Does Chris and Joey are also asking your favorite song to perform? We covered this, but anything else you wanna talk about Washington on your side?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:37:05] Yeah, I love Washington, but to perform that. Oh, my goodness. There's something so powerful about that opening number. Oh, it is just it I'm so nervous. My nerves are literally just like before then. No. And that's how I know I still love what I do because I still have those same butterflies that I had that night in Oklahoma City for every single show, no matter what. But it's something it's to me the most powerful number in music theater history. And not because I'm in the show literally now, because I'm in the show. Just the chills you get there is no fucking overture. There's no bullshit before of like it's like and it's like you just say, oh, shit is starting. Also, I think Hamilton just has the best sound system ever. Like depending on which city it could be different, not in control of the sound system, just the acoustic place, but at least how we feel it on stage, the rumbles that if it's something you can explain. Andy's choreo is so slick, everything is so precise. And I know they spent so long on just writing the opening and choreographing it, but it showed because it's so good. It's so good. And I love performing the number, I do.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:38:23] There are also asking Act 1 or Act 2, which is your favorite to perform.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:38:28] Definitely Act two. Yeah, I like playing evil. I love playing evil. But that's what I think my character is the best because like OK, you know me, I'm a damn fool shot. We know what he's going to do, like we know it from the get go. There's no other character that like gets to play like Hamilton best friend and like his arch enemy, like, you know what I mean? Like, I get to do literally both. I get to literally be one of his best friend, you know, like where we are the original Destiny's Child in Act one, like Kelly, Beyonce. What they're there. They're the Destiny's Child. Kelly, Beyonce.

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They've show where the Destiny's Child. Kelly, Beyonce, Latoya LaCavia. You know what I mean? Like, we're like we're old school Destiny's child, but. Yeah, but yeah, we it's just so cool to do that and to be so close to them and then act 2 to be like, hey this. I bet you thought you'd seen the last of me, you know what I mean. Like to like make that, that flip and I just I like, I like playing the villan I think is so cool because it's so like not close to who I am as a person.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:39:34] Oh totally. And then also just where it's like did you forget Lafayette. It's like remember how I to have that ponytail like a very early

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:39:41] oh my goodness. When I tell you I hate saying that line because I'm like also so this is, this is ti no one knows I do this except it, but when she goes and when I meet Thomas Jefferson I'm. So when she goes, when I'm in Thomas Jefferson I go meet like I go meet but then I go me? and then like then the way, the way we play it, it doesn't look much. It's not generic.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:40:06] Oh come on.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:40:08] Well, like no one else, no one else would know that one now. But that said it like no one else would know but. That for that two seconds, I hop out of Lafayette and go into Jefferson and it's just like a little inside little jokey joke we have on stage.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:40:22] Yeah, Krystal and joey, you're also asking their last question out of this little Rapid Fire segment, I guess, which is your favorite costume and why?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:40:31] Oh. Oh, my God. Definitely. Definitely. Definitely, definitely for act one. For Lafayette, it's the fancy military costume with the gold and the gold buttons, the blue jacket that he ends in. The guns and ships costume

Gillian Pensavalle [00:40:45] Yeah, yeah.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:40:46] It's just like just the back and then and act 2 it's that that long trench with the neck and the collars, they come on. How do you not feel like the most.

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It's besides the woman two track who has the big dress. It's like the longest, biggest costume in the show. Like it's so dramatic. I love it. The crest of velvet, the inside actually what a lot of people don't know. There's a great panel on the jacket, the big purple. There's a green panel under the other layer of purple. And that's what makes it shine like like when you see it and it has a like kind of almost shiny purple. That's because there's a layer of green under it. And I just I think is so badass.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:41:33] You know this is why, for a zillion reasons, this podcast is going to go on forever. But Paul Tazewell just gave me three episodes worth of gems and and generosity and amazing ness, and he didn't say anything about that. So that's why there's all there's always stuff to talk about and always stuff to learn.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:41:50] And I love it. I think it's so cool. I love being in the show.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:41:54] So Deb is asking Deb asks this often, and I haven't asked it in a little bit. But I think this might be a fun last question, especially Warren, because you love, like random questions you said

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:42:05] I love this idea that I love I love

Gillian Pensavalle [00:42:09] Deb would really love to know what is your favorite type of pasta.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:42:13] Oh, my God. Deb, there is this pasta place here and in Los Angeles, if you are in Los Angeles, you're on Melrose for whatever reason. Go. It is called Spartina, there is this Barka rigatoni.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:42:30] Oh, come on.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:42:32] And it has pesto in it. And shrimp is like a shrimp Barka, but it just literally tastes like it's a food orgasm is just like simply what it is.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:42:43] It's like Penne if go with pesto because those are my two favorite

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Warren Egypt Franklin [00:42:48] Yep. And shrimp, it's it's literally so good.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:42:52] I have to go.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:42:53] The shrimp is cooked so well. It's a great portion. It's so good. I love love, love, love, love, love it.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:43:00] Well Warren, thank you so much for taking the time. I know you are so busy. I know you actually have things to do after this. I really, really appreciate it. It's been so much fun hanging out and getting to know you a little bit more and I hope you can do this again. Or, you know, if I'm in L.A. or or see you on tour,

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:43:18] you invite me for another episode. If you're out on tour, if you're out in L.A. and I happen to be here, I definitely don't want this to be my last time. We'll cover more things. So it'll be great.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:43:29] One hundred percent and keep me posted. So let's go. Let's tell the people where they can find you on social media or if you have a website where they can find where they can watch you or where they can listen to you. So give all the plugs. And then, of course, because I know we're recording this months before it'll be out or weeks before whatever, that will all be updated in the show notes. But just let people know like what you're up to and where they can find you.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:43:52] Yes, you can email grandpa and I don't have Twitter or tick tock or anything. I know I'm a twenty four year old grandpa, but you can find me on Instagram. That is the only social media site that I'm on. But yes, follow me on Instagram. @WarrenEgypt, my first name. You can also watch me find Dez on Grown this summer and fall. It comes on Freeform and you can also watch it the next day on Hulu if you missed it that night because of people have cable and more than that and you can also stream my new single. By the time it comes out you can stream my new single chemistry. Please go listen to is an amazing song, my EP coming out soon and yeah, those are all the things that I'm working on. Or if you really, really love me,

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come out and see me as Laffayette Jefferson on the Hamilton Philip or coming to a city near you. So yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:44:52] OK, well I'm going to see you somewhere. I don't know what state or time zone or something, but we're going to we're going to see each other very soon. I can feel it

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:44:58] Absolutely. Absolutely. And can be such an amazing time.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:45:01] Yes. Well, thank you again. I know you're the busiest. I really, really appreciate it, listeners. Thank you, as always, for hanging out with me week after week. Patreon Peep. Thank you for those amazing questions. Warren did you like those questions? You love questions.

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:45:15] I love, love, love.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:45:17] OK, everyone, thank you so much for listening. I love you. I will talk to you so soon. I am G. Pen

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:45:23] I am Warren Egypt Franklin. Also people, if you are listening to this, please Instagram and everyone has for little Hamilton names like G. Pen and all these names. And I'm just not creative enough. If you think of a name for me, I

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:45:42] will give you a special shout out on Instagram and a signed Playbill. I am speaking that right now. If you come up with a clever name that I actually like, I will shout you. I'll give you the credit and give you a signed playbill. But I just because I don't know, like Tom is like I'm not a ham or a diverse like it's a little weird. So like I could be little

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:03] Warren Egypt or I look, I'm taking myself. I love that this happened. This was not planned. This like but

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:46:09] like G. Pen Sounds cool. I have like my name is interesting. I have two first names so like and then like W is like multiple consonants and like no other

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letters are like it's just weird. And then if I did E. Frank I don't know you guys come up with it. That's why y'all are the best, coolest bands ever. I don't know if it's like well go towards like what Hamilton or Bodega like a something does something or like a Thomas Jefferson. Thomas Franklin instead are like a Marquis de Lafayette. So in Egypt, Dave Franklin are like, I don't know, you guys make it up, let me know. And I told you, I've got to with the shout out and I've got to do with the signed playbill. So whatever you guys think it's about the fans reach out to me.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:54] Let me know if you'll you'll keep me posted, right?

Warren Egypt Franklin [00:46:56] I will. Definitely, yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:57] I love you, Warren, and love you. The listeners talk to you so soon. Bye, everybody.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:47:42] The Hamilcast is brought to you by my love of the thing TM and my complete lack of chill, please join me in raising all the glasses to Sir Alex Lacamoire for generously making my intro music and this custom Yorktown arrangement that I will never, ever get over. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. To become a patreon peep and join the best, kindest and most welcoming corner of the Internet, go to Patreon dot com, slash the Hamilcast. You can submit questions to guests, join Zoom Hangouts, get behind the scenes access and of course, my unending gratitude. I'm at the Hamilcast on all social media and you can listen wherever you get your podcasts. Visit the Hamilcast dot com for transcripts, episodes and more. You can see what's going on with Mike. You know Mike at Michael Paul Smith dot net. True Crime Obsessed is my true crime comedy podcast with my podcast soul mate Patrick Hinds of Theater People and Broadway BackStory fame. Thank you so much for listening. It means the world to me, to the revolution