

00:00:00	Music	Transition	Gentle, trilling music with a steady drumbeat plays under the dialogue.
00:00:01	Promo	Promo	Speaker: <i>Bullseye with Jesse Thorn</i> is a production of MaximumFun.org and is distributed by NPR.
00:00:12	Music	Transition	<i>[Music fades out.]</i> “Huddle Formation” from the album <i>Thunder, Lightning, Strike</i> by The Go! Team. A fast, upbeat, peppy song. Music plays as Jesse speaks, then fades out.
00:00:19	Jesse Thorn	Host	It’s <i>Bullseye</i> . I’m Jesse Thorn. My first guest this week is Christopher Lloyd. Christopher Lloyd is, for a lot of people, an icon. He’s performed in some of the most memorable movies of the 20 th century. <i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest</i> , <i>Who Framed Roger Rabbit</i> , and of course, <i>Back to the Future</i> .
00:00:37	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:00:38	Clip	Clip	Doc Brown (<i>Back to the Future</i>): I remember it vividly. I was standing on the edge of my toilet hanging a clock, the porcelain was wet. I slipped, hit my head on the edge of the sink and when I came to, I had a revelation! A vision! A picture in my head! A picture of this! This is what makes time travel possible. The flux capacitor!
00:00:55	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:00:56	Jesse	Host	Christopher Lloyd’s been in the game a long time! Around the age of 19, he took acting classes at the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre, in New York—with the legendary acting teacher Sandord Meisner: the guy who invented the Meisner Technique. Lloyd acted mainly onstage before he got his first big role in <i>Cuckoo’s Nest</i> . He’s still extremely committed to the stage. He performs there when he can. He has plans to play King Lear later this year. And at the age of 82, he has no intention of retiring. In his latest film role, he stars alongside William Shatner in <i>Senior Moment</i> . It’s a romantic comedy set around a group of seniors who live in the California desert. Shatner plays a retired fighter pilot, named Victor. Victor is trying to win the affections of fellow retiree Caroline, played by Jean Smart. To add to his problems, Victor can’t seem to stop getting in trouble for his driving.
00:02:08	Sound Effect	Transition	In this scene, Victor is in traffic court. He’s just called his best friend to the stand: Sal, played by our guest, Christopher Lloyd. Sal is, I guess, some kind of character witness. Music swells and fades.
00:02:09	Clip	Clip	Music: Suspenseful violin music.
			Speaker (<i>Senior Moment</i>): Good afternoon, Mr. Spinelli.
			Sal: Good afternoon, Mr. Mark.
			Speaker: <i>[Chuckles.]</i> Mr. Spinelli, would you please inform the court how long you’ve known the defendant?
			Sal: Well, we met at Carlton High, freshman year of Phys Ed.
			Speaker: What kind of a man is he?

[Touching music swells.]

Sal: The bravest man I know! Fought in ‘Nam. Tested jets for NASA. A true American hero and the best damn friend I could ever have hoped for.

Speaker: How many times would you say you’ve driven with the defendant?

Sal: *[Laughing.]* Oh! Too many to count!

Speaker: Would you describe him as reckless?

Sal: Oh, confident, maybe. But never reckless. Music swells and fades.

00:02:52 Sound Effect Transition

00:02:53 Jesse Host Christopher Lloyd, welcome to *Bullseye*. I’m so happy to have you on the show.

00:02:56 Christopher Lloyd Guest Oh, thank you! I’m delighted.

00:03:00 Jesse Host How did you get the idea that you wanted to be an actor?

00:03:04 Christopher Guest It’s funny, ‘cause I kind of—I don’t know why, but I anticipated that you might ask for that. So, I was thinking it over. *[Chuckles.]* I just remember, back 7th, 8th, 9th grade or something that if I felt threatened by the bigger boys or whomever, whatever, I would do something that was kind of—I don’t know—unexpected and it made them laugh or they were amused and then somebody asked me to be in a school play. This was 7th or 8th grade or something. And I did that a few times, subsequently. It just kind of coalesced after a while. So, I thought I’d try acting.

00:03:56 Jesse Host You studied at the Neighborhood Playhouse with Sanford Meisner, who’s—you know, one of the greatest acting teachers of the 20th century.

[Christopher confirms several times.]

And he was, you know—his method, his famous—known as the Meisner Technique—listening is so essential to it. Like, it’s really like a system of teaching you how to be very profoundly present. How did you end up there and how did it change you as a—as a performer?

00:04:29 Christopher Guest Well, I did—you know—some summer stock before I went to the playhouse for a while. And you hear other actors talking about—you know, this place, that place. And Meisner, for—what I felt the way they talked about the Neighborhood Playhouse was that it was where I wanted to go and just sort of—so I had an interview with Meisner and then I was accepted. *[Chuckles.]* And then he wasn’t there for the first year, which was a big surprise. And he wasn’t there for both years—I was at the playhouse for two years and when I got out of it, I felt—I really—and all the faculty were proteges. But it wasn’t getting through. I came out of it. I felt that I’d still—a little bit where I was when it started.

So, Meisner came back, and it got—and started teaching again at the playhouse. And he had two classes each week, outside of the playhouse. Then I went back to him and I started in with those

00:06:02	Jesse	Host	classes. And he was fabulous. I mean, just extraordinary. And I came out of it getting what I wanted. So, it worked out.
00:06:06	Christopher	Guest	Did you think you were gonna be a theatre actor forever? Uh, <i>[laughs]</i> I began to wonder about it. I wanted to do film. I came to New York—because I lived in Connecticut—and I was familiar with the scene, having gone in and out of the—uh... I wanted to do film, but I just felt, “Get a base in the theatre.” And I—you know, I really loved theatre. I loved going back and doing the play; I feel I’m going home. You know? It just feels right. And then I started going up for film meetings and interviews and I could tell there’s nothing happening here. And I just thought maybe I’m one of those actors who do not make the bridge from theatre to screen. You know? And then <i>Cuckoo’s Nest</i> came to New York to do some casting. And the casting director who, you know, was good to me—sent me out all the time—set me up and that was that.
00:07:20	Jesse	Host	I think that when you’re working in theatre, often it is expected that—you know—you’ll be able to transform yourself, because you’re working in rep or you’re working with a company and you’re playing all kinds of different roles, it’s really valuable to be able to do anything. Right?

[Christopher confirms several times as Jesse continues.]

00:08:15	Christopher	Guest	And often when you’re working onscreen, the direction of your career is determined by, you know, what you seem like when you walk into a room. Like, people taking one glance at you and deciding what kind of thing you are, what kind of thing you do. And I wonder whether when you started going up for film roles—when you were—I mean, you were a full-on grownup before you started doing screenwork—whether you had to, like, reckon with what people thought of you when you walked into a room. Overtime, yeah—overtime, I started making a real effort to be as much the character that I’m going in to read for or meet for as I can without it being annoying, you know, or something stupid. You know, just trying to really find the essence of it and bring it in, hope that I could convey that. Whether I did my hair in a certain way, what I dressed, an accent, whatever. But if I could make it, you know, real. So, I would do that more and more and it started paying off. It took a while, but it started—I could notice—I got more adept at it and it helped. And also, <i>Cuckoo’s Nest</i> was—you know, an incredible film to start out with. After—you know, I was buzzed.
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[They chuckle.]

00:09:33	Sound Effect	Transition	It was a great experience. So, that really helped things along. Music swells and fades.
00:09:34	Clip	Clip	Dale Harding (<i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest</i>): For the third time, you do not have a hotel on Boardwalk. Martini: Hotel. Hotel. Hotel. Dale: It costs 1000 dollars and four green houses to put a hotel on Boardwalk and you do not have a hotel! Taber: Play the game. Knock off the <i>[censored]</i> .

Dale: Huh?

00:09:49	Sound Effect	Transition	Taber: Play the game, Harding. Music swells and fades.
00:09:50	Jesse	Host	The audition process for <i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i> was sort of famously unusual and involved. What did you have to do to get your part in the film?
00:10:03	Christopher	Guest	Um, Miloš Forman—the director, of course. He would set up chairs in a semi-circle in front of him on the floor. And they would be filled by actors all, you know, auditioning, in effect. And he would talk to us. He'd be sitting where Nurse Ratched would be sitting and he'd ask us a question and he had the sense of how to get things going. And that was the audition, you know. You just kind of lived out the way it went. People were talking about things. You could interject at any time. You know, it was kind of cool. But, you know, I think that I came up and did that a couple of times. And then that was that.
00:11:03	Jesse	Host	Let's hear a scene from <i>Taxi</i> , which—you know, was a very long running sitcom about a group of New York City cab drivers, one of whom was played by my guest, Christopher Lloyd: Reverend Jim, who is a kind of spaced-out, sweet kook. So, in this scene the dispatcher, Tiny—who's played by Danny DeVito is there and Jim is at the garage and he's just sitting down to a snack.
00:11:37	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:11:38	Clip	Clip	<i>[The sounds of people talking in the background. The audience laughs regularly throughout the scene.]</i>
			Jim (Taxi): Well, boss, I'm back from my vacation!
			Tiny: You didn't happen to run into your brains while you were out there, did you?
			Jim: No, but I wasn't really looking.
			Tiny: Well, I'll have a cab for you in a minute, Gulliver.
			Jim: Okay. What's all these cookies?
			Tiny: They were baked by a guy I fired.
			The Audience: <i>[In unison.]</i> He quit. <i>[Laughter.]</i>
			Jim: Oooh. They got a nice little surprise inside!
			Tiny: What are you talking about?
			Jim: Well, I could be wrong, but I detect something in here that's a lot more powerful than oatmeal.
00:12:33	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:12:34	Jesse	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> So, when you got cast in <i>Taxi</i> , did you think of yourself as a comedy actor?
00:12:43	Christopher	Guest	I knew, you know—it was written for laughs, for comedy and all that. But I felt that—I don't know, I've just—I've never—I don't know if

I've ever really thought of myself in a particular way, comedy actor or dramatic actor, whatever. When casting's going on, when I'm—you know—I don't go up one way or the other. I just go up there and try to respond to the material and see what happens. I enjoy laughs.

[They chuckle.]

I was in a—I was in a Neil Simon play. *Barefoot in the Park*. And I did that in the summer stock, in Cape May, New Jersey somewhere in the '60s. And I was playing the Robert Redford part. Bob or whoever it was. And I hadn't seen Neil Simon, yet. I hadn't—you know. So, we were—you know—a couple of days into rehearsal and the director beckoned me over to the edge of the stage and he kind of confidentially told me, "Chris, this is a comedy."

[Jesse laughs.]

And I learned something. *[Laughs.]* I learned something that, you know—when I made the adjustment, every line... you know, you just had to open your mouth and say them, and you got the laugh. It was just written so well. It was extraordinary.

00:14:27 Jesse Host

One of the things that I've heard from people who did audience sitcoms—multi-camera sitcoms over long periods of time is that you learn a very particular kind of basically stage performance, because not only are you—you know—acting in front of an audience, not only are you doing jokes in front of an audience, but often you're—you know—you're there doing the same joke a few times, 'cause there's—you know—multiple takes of things and you have to do—you're doing the same joke or a similar joke in front of the audience. You have to find a new wrinkle in it. You have to find something that's a little bit different. What was it like to do that over years? You know, every week, go up in front of a—in front of an audience and do those jokes?

00:15:21 Christopher Guest

I don't know, sometimes I've watched a sitcom and I got a feeling that it looks like sitcom acting. Or sitcom—you know what I mean? I think.

[Jesse confirms.]

And it's kind of stale and mechanical, a bit. Whatever. And the laughs were kind of—you know, contrived and all that. So, I never wanted to end up that way. You know. Doing something—repeating it, you know, like—you know, doing it every week. And it's no better than that. You know. I didn't—I didn't, you know—I wanted—it had to have something bring excitement to it. So. And I lucked out. You know, I lucked out getting into—overcoming my prejudices and *[chuckling]* grow up. And it worked out great.

00:16:26 Jesse Host

Reverend Jim is such an iconic TV character and, you know, was repeated on television ad infinitum. You know, like—as with me, you know. By the time I was watching *Taxi* it was in reruns, but I've seen a lot of *Taxi*.

[Christopher confirms.]

What was it like to go from working actor of basically about 20 years to, you know, people's television friend? Which is, I think, what a—sort of like what a long-running sitcoms character is?

[Christopher agrees.]

00:17:05 Christopher Guest You know, it's a very different way of *[chuckles]*—of having people see you.
Right. I guess there's a certain inclination to want everybody to get what you have to say or—you know what I mean?

[Jesse hums in agreement.]

00:18:06 Jesse Host So—and you wanna give your best for them, whatever medium you're working in. And yeah. Acting is kind of like really communicating a lot and like a character and—no matter whether it's a nice guy or a not-so-nice guy—and find what makes, you know—what is it that's human about this guy and I can identify with? Even if I'm not him. And convey that to an audience. They might not even like the character, but they will feel for it. You know? Understand it.

00:18:06 Jesse Host Even more with Christopher Lloyd still to come. We still haven't talked about *Back to the Future!* *[Chuckles.]* We're not gonna skip that! Hear about it after the break. It's *Bullseye*, from MaximumFun.org and NPR.

00:18:19 Promo Clip **Music:** Bright, cheerful music.

Speaker: On NPR's Pop Culture Happy Hour podcast, we talk about TV, movies, and more. Like the new Marvel, Disney+ series, *The Falcon and the Winter Soldier*, and a definitive ranking of the best Muppets. All of that in around 20 minutes every weekday. Listen now to the *Pop Culture Happy Hour* podcast, from NPR.

[Music fades out.]

00:18:40 Promo Clip **Music:** Cheerful guitar.

John Moe: Hey, it's John Moe. And look, these are challenging times for our mental and emotional health. I get it! That's why I'm so excited for my new podcast, *Depresh Mode*. We're tackling depression, anxiety, trauma, stress, the kinds of things that are just super common but don't get talked about nearly enough. Conversations that are illuminating, honest, and sometimes pretty funny, with folks like Kelsey Darragh, Open Mike Eagle, and Patton Oswalt.

Patton Oswalt: *[Petulantly.]* "Humphrey Bogart was never in therapy!" And then my dad said, "Yeah, but he smoked a carton of cigarettes a day. So, he was in therapy."

John: Plus psychiatrists, psychologist, and all kinds of folks. On *Depresh Mode*, we're working together: learning, helping each other out. We're a team! Join our team! *Depresh Mode* from Maximum Fun, wherever you get your podcasts.

[Music fades out.]

00:19:29	Jesse	Host	<p>Welcome back to <i>Bullseye</i>. I'm Jesse Thorn. My guest is Christopher Lloyd. He is, of course, the star of <i>Back to the Future</i>, <i>Taxi</i>, <i>Who Framed Roger Rabbit</i>, and so many other films. He's 82 years old, now. Still working. Still performs on stage regularly. Still working in movies and TV. His newest film role is in <i>Senior Moment</i>: a romantic comedy in which Lloyd stars alongside Jean Smart and William Shatner.</p> <p>So, I think that—as an elder millennial myself—you are most burned into my memory as the guy who's about to put Roger Rabbit into The Dip. <i>[Chuckles.]</i> Um, I mean—you've had a number of iconic screen roles, Christopher, but you know, outside of maybe playing Large Marge in <i>Pee-wee's Big Adventure</i>, I don't think there was any more terrifying character from my childhood you could have played.</p>
00:20:27	Christopher	Guest	<p>Yeah. Yeah. And I get great pleasure knowing that.</p> <p><i>[They laugh.]</i></p>
00:20:36	Sound Effect	Transition	<p>Music swells and fades.</p>
00:20:37	Clip	Clip	<p><i>[Sizzling sound.]</i></p> <p>Judge Doom (Who Framed Roger Rabbit): Can you guess what this is?</p> <p><i>[Ominous music swells.]</i></p> <p>Jessica Rabbit: <i>[In horror.]</i> Oooh my god, it's DIIIIIP!</p> <p>Judge Doom: That's right, Valiant! Enough to Dip Toon Town off the face of the Earth!</p> <p><i>[Boiling noises.]</i></p> <p>Judge Doom: Vehicle of my own design! 5,000 gallons of heated Dip pumped at enormous velocity through a pressurized water cannon! Toon Town will be erased in a matter of minutes!</p>
00:21:09	Sound Effect	Transition	<p>Music swells and fades.</p>
00:21:10	Christopher	Guest	<p>I remember seeing Disney films when they—I mean, when Walt Disney was making them. You know? Way back in the '50s? Somewhere in there. I don't know where. And there was—seemed like every one of them, there was a moment that was absolutely horrifying. You know.</p> <p><i>[Jesse agrees.]</i></p> <p>Just dream—nightmare-material. And people'd come up to me and tell me the same story that happened to them, when they saw that movie. And it's just payback.</p> <p><i>[They chuckle.]</i></p> <p>It's fun. But I love it! I mean, it's just—to be that nasty but that little shoe—my squeaky little shoe in The Dip. But it was a wonderful film.</p>

00:22:10	Jesse	Host	This is what I was thinking about, 'cause I watched it recently with my kids, and it—I was really—I was really thrilled with how well it held up. I thought it was just as wonderful, as an adult, as I had thought it was, as a kid.
00:22:23	Christopher	Guest	Great.
00:22:24	Jesse	Host	But as I was watching it, I was thinking, "This movie is like an unequivocal success." Like, this is a great film. Everything works. But then I was just thinking of all of these actors, including you, on a soundstage—you know, probably holding a cube painted green, when you're dipping the shoe into The Dip. You know what I mean?
			<i>[Christopher confirms with a chuckle.]</i>
00:22:55	Christopher	Guest	And I thought, like, "All of these people, like—how did they convince themselves this was gonna work?" <i>[Laughs.]</i> I know! I—well, they took a lot of pains to make it happen. First of all, it was like—it wasn't digital. It was, you know—every plate was painted and drawn and all that. And they had it—they—there was a like—sort of three-story, old factory building a few—in London. And it had divided compartments in it. In a big open space. And all these guys and women from everywhere—Thailand and all-around Europe and Asia and Australia—you know, in there making each cell. You know what I'm saying? It was like extraordinary. Anyway, they had that and then they had a guy who was a comedian. Damn, I can't think of his name at the moment. Who played Roger Rabbit, off camera. So, whenever you had words to say to Roger Rabbit, you'd talk to this guy and he got himself all done up in a crazy kind of Roger Rabbit kind of costume and he had <i>[pitching his voice up]</i> a voice! You know. He had Roger Rabbit's voice. And so, you'd stare at him. And that was very helpful. You know. The—for that.
			And then they also had Roger Rabbit foam cutouts. You know, Roger Rabbit maybe up to your thigh size and it had real weight and arms and legs, the whole thing. And you'd rehearse with that to get the feeling of the muscles you would need—what you'd need to support that weight. And then, of course, they'd take it away after you'd rehearsed a while and they'd shoot without it. So—and then they had a pantomimist there to assist in the whole process. So, they took a lot of—took a lot of pains to be sure it could be done, that it would work.
00:25:24	Jesse	Host	Well, Christopher, I have to tell you that if I don't talk to you about <i>Back to the Future</i> , I will get a volume of angry letters that will, like, make my house float away.
00:25:36	Christopher	Guest	I don't—I don't wanna—
00:25:37	Jesse	Host	<i>[Chuckling.]</i> Like a midwestern flood.
00:25:39	Christopher	Guest	Uh-huh. Well, fire away!
00:25:44	Jesse	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> You know, I was thinking about—I was thinking about the <i>Back to the Future</i> movies, and I realized that, you know, for you certainly the first <i>Back to the Future</i> movie—they're all—they're all really fun. The first <i>Back to the Future</i> movie, you know, having established the world, is probably the definitive classic.
00:26:05	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:26:06	Clip	Clip	Music: Quirky orchestral music.

Marty McFly: You disintegrated Einstein!

Doc Brown: [*Yelling.*] Calm down, Marty! I didn't disintegrate anything! The molecular structure of both Einstein and the car are completely intact!

Marty: [*Panicked.*] Then where the hell are they!?

Doc Brown: The appropriate question is, "When the hell are they?" You see, Einstein has just become the world's first-time traveler! I sent him into the future! One minute into the future to be exact. And at precisely 1:21AM and zero seconds, we shall catch up with him and the time machine.

00:26:36 Sound Effect Transition

Music swells and fades.

00:26:37 Jesse Host

But *Back to the Future 3*, where it's in the old west and you have a love interest is kind of the most Christopher Lloyd-y *Back to the Future* movie!

00:26:49 Christopher Guest

Uuh, well. I'm... [*laughs*] I can't quite touch that impartially, but—

00:27:01 Jesse Host

[*They laugh.*]

I'm asking for your partial evaluation.

00:27:04 Jesse Host

No, I—uh, that's my choice. When people say, "Which one did you love doing the most?" And it's number three. Number one is exciting, because it initiates the whole—you know—story. The DeLorean coming out of the truck and, you know, all that stuff was being established. That gives it a special energy. But you know, I love—I loved westerns, as a kid. Watching western movies and all that stuff. And I spent time in Wyoming and whatever. So, I loved *Back to the Future 3*. That was great

00:27:52 Jesse Host

I have a question about your hair.

00:27:58 Christopher Guest

[*Laughs.*] Uuuh, moving along.

00:28:01 Jesse Host

Yeah, certainly in the *Back to the Future* movies and in some of your other iconic roles your hair has a volume and flare that is very distinctive.

[*Christopher agrees.*]

To what extent was that your hair in real life, during those years? And to what extent did you have to, like, "Oh. I gotta grow my Doc Brown hair back out."

00:28:32 Christopher Guest

Uuh. Well, in the—in the trilogy, I can't quite remember exactly, but it was—at times it was my own hair. And then they wanted a wig because it was all gonna be white and not blonde, or something like that. And—I don't know, lately I've sudden gotten long hair going on with my work. That's just the way it is. I had some—when I was doing theatre work, I shaved my head. I shaved my head for *Addams Family*, for Uncle Fester. So.

00:29:24 Jesse Host

That was your real shaved head in *Addams Family*?

00:29:27 Christopher Guest

Yeah. Yeah. 'Cause he's bald. He's bald. As is—

00:29:33 Jesse Host

[*Laughs.*] That's true!

00:29:34 Christopher Guest

In the cartoon.

00:29:36 Jesse Host

[*Laughing.*] But there—there are bald caps!

[*Christopher agrees.*]

00:29:44 Christopher Guest That is something that a major motion picture could have supplied you with.
Yes, but I've done that. I've done it in the theatre, and I think I did it maybe in something. But that's kind of—you know. You gotta cut your hair shorter anyway, because the—it's gotta fit well. And they—and that takes some time for the makeup artist to—you know, to put it on and then he has to stick it on. You know. So, it stays in place. And then if you have hair of any, you know, length—which I usually do—the hair stylist has to take the hair you have and pin it with 100,000 hairpins before she puts the false head—lays it over you.

00:30:55 Jesse Host So, it's a lot of that. And then, if you've got an active role, you sweat. And your scalp starts itching furiously. And so, when I can avoid that, I do. I just shave my head.
I've only shaved my head for real—I have very short hair 'cause I'm pretty bald, but I've only shaved my head down to the skin once in my life. It was when I was—you know, I had finished all my classes in college, but I was an RA and I had to stick around for another ten days or something and I just got really bored.

[Christopher chuckles.]

00:31:23 Christopher Guest But *[chuckling]* I remember, vividly, the feeling—what it felt like to really have no hair on my head. Do you remember what it was like when you—

00:31:25 Jesse Host Yes. Very fresh.

00:31:27 Christopher Guest —when you took the razor to your head?

Yeah. I had an audition once. I interviewed for a film and it was during while I was—I did a play where I shaved my head. So, I had a shaved head, and I got a wig kind of disordered brown hair and when it was on, it was really—you know, very convincing. Looked good. So, I wore the wig to the interview.

[Jesse chuckles.]

And the lady was a bit—kind of bossy, you know? Middle-aged, bossy kind of lady. I normally, you know—and she's going on about it and then she said, "Of course, the part you'd be playing would be the part of a monk. And you'd have to shave your head." And I just reached up, pulled my wig off.

[Jesse laughs.]

00:32:36 Jesse Host It was like—I didn't even get the part, but it was such a delicious moment. *[Laughs.]*

00:32:41 Christopher Guest That's like the time that you didn't get the part, but you still won.

Oh yeah. Yeah, it felt good.

[They laugh.]

00:32:47 Jesse Host You know, I have to ask you—in *Senior Moment*, you know, there's three leads. Jean Smart is the spring chicken. She's in her late 60s.

[Christopher confirms several times.]

But, you know, William Shatner is now 90 and you are in your 80s. How does it change the process of making a movie? Especially one that is not, like—you know, *[chuckling]* there's action sequences in this movie! When your body is different, you know? All three of you, but certainly you and Shatner. You know? You're older than you used to be. How is it a different experience?

00:33:28 Christopher Guest

Uh, I'll tell you, one thing about actually acting old—you know—old people are you don't have to put a lot of makeup on to effect age.

[Jesse chuckles.]

I used to do that a lot. Actually, I have a—I was at a thing where—it was a Q&A and a child raised a hand, said, "Mr. Lloyd, what's it like not having to wear old age makeup anymore?" And, um...

[They laugh.]

00:34:07 Jesse Host

I mean, there's something to be said for the fact that you are now on like year 40 of playing 60.

00:34:13 Christopher Guest

Yeah. Yeah. But I'm—I don't know, I didn't—I don't know. It just seemed to work, with *Senior Moment*. I enjoyed working with William Shatner. And we had a classic kind of fight, in *Return of Spock*, the third movie. So, we were kind of acquainted. We'd met, at least. It was a lot of fun. And I thought he was wonderful in it. He did a—really made a lovely, lovely character.

00:34:58 Jesse Host

I don't mean this question as an insult, but why do you think you're still working?

00:35:04 Christopher Guest

Why?

[Jesse confirms.]

Well, one thing: I want to. For sure.

00:35:12 Jesse Host

Why do you want to?

00:35:14 Christopher Guest

It—I love doing it. And I feel like it—you know, it's—I feel I'm getting better and better with the acting, with using myself and connecting and all that. That keeps me going. And I've been—I—you know, so far, I haven't been disabled by anything. So, I'm very fortunate and just keep going. *[Chuckles.]* As long as it takes.

00:35:47 Jesse Host

You've done almost everything. Is there anything you haven't done that you'd like to do?

00:35:51 Christopher Guest

Umm... I don't know. I don't know. Um. We'll see. I'm doing a movie, now, with George Clooney directing and Ben Affleck, there up in Boston. I'm just loving doing it. You know, I have a kind of medium supporting role and it's based on a novel, *The Tender Bar*. And it's a—I'm really excited about that. And this summer, if all goes well, I'm gonna do *King Lear*, at the Berkshire Shakespeare Festival. Our company.

[Jesse expresses amazement.]

And I'm just—I'm into that, every day. It just—you know, it's the kind of role that you could never actually *[chuckles]* complete. There's always something more, I feel. And I'm so excited about that.

00:37:03 Jesse Host

Are you scared?

00:37:05 Christopher Guest

Uh, well, yeah! *[Chuckles.]* I mean, I—at moments I say, "What the hell am I doing to myself?" And then there's other moments that I

00:37:28	Jesse	Host	get so excited about it. But I guess some fear kind of comes with the territory. Well, Christopher Lloyd, I'm so grateful for your time. Thank you for talking with me.
00:37:32	Christopher	Guest	Oh, you're welcome! Thank you. Thank <u>you</u> .
00:37:35	Jesse	Host	Christopher Lloyd, friends. His newest movie is <i>Senior Moment</i> . It's a romantic comedy where he performs alongside William Shatner and Jean Smart. He's also in the upcoming action film, <i>Nobody</i> , where he'll act alongside one of our favorites, the great Bob Odenkirk. Yes, that's right: action star, Van Hammersly.
00:37:57	Music	Transition	Upbeat music.
00:37:59	Jesse	Host	That's the end of another episode of <i>Bullseye</i> . <i>Bullseye</i> , created out of the homes of me and the staff of Maximum Fun, in and around greater Los Angeles. Here in my house, I've accepted that I'm an extra large now and am going through my clothes getting rid of the larges.

The show is produced by speaking into microphones. Our producer is Kevin Ferguson. Jesus Ambrosio and Jordan Kauwling are our associate producers. We get help from Casey O'Brien, as well. Our production fellows, at Maximum Fun, are Richard Robey and Valerie Moffat. Our interstitial music is by Dan Wally, also known as DJW. Our theme song is by The Go! Team. Thanks very much to them and to their label, Memphis Industries, for sharing it. The Go! Team have a record just around the corner. There's a single up right now. You should search for The Go! Team on YouTube or whatever and give it a listen.

You can also keep up with the show on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube. We post all our interviews in those places. And I think that's about it. Just remember: all great radio hosts have a signature signoff.

00:39:02	Promo	Promo	Speaker: <i>Bullseye with Jesse Thorn</i> is a production of MaximumFun.org and is distributed by NPR.
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[Music fades out.]