

Sunday, 24 September 2017

# Doesn't Slow Down

Jack Benny had been around so long, and seen or heard so often by 1968, it must have been tough for national columnists to come up with something different to write about him. But they managed, though if you view them collectively, there's a lot of repetition.

Jack hit the publicity circuit in early 1968 to push his latest TV special. Columnists usually got around to fleshing out their story—after all, an out-and-out plug would be a little unseemly—generally asking about his charity concert work or about his show-biz friends.

This story published March 8, 1968 has a few of the usual nuggets and a couple of other little things. Jack gets across some "cheap" and "39" one-liners; I suppose he was resigned to the fact it was expected of



### By HAROLD HEFFERNAN

North American Newspaper Alliance

HOLLYWOOD — Jack Benny is a man who acts like he really believes he's 39 years old. The way he bounces around the country, doing symphony concerts, personal appearances and now his own special on TV, you would think he has forgotten that he has been 39 since 1933.

"Take it easy?" asks Jack. "At my age?"

The fact is that Jack is having a ball. His closest friends realize that. Nobody enjoys life and movement more than Jack. This couldn't be more definitely projected than when he is doing a guest soloist spot with a major symphony orchestra, as he just did in Boston with Eric Leinsdorf and the Boston Symphony orchestra. Or when he is cavorting around in a TV comedy special.

"I have just finished a show which will be seen on NBC-TV March 20," he says with all the enthusiasm of a video newcomer, "and I think it's one of the best I've done in years. We've got a great cast, real pros like Lucille Ball and Johnny Carson. And Ben Blue and a combo called Paul Revere and The Raiders. "Sure thing," Jack chuckled, "somebody had to ask me if I played with the original group."

Some of his old buddies turned up, too, for what they called "cameos" — among them Bob Hope, Dean Martin, Danny Thomas, George Burns, The Smothers Brothers and the Dodgers' 100-grand-per-year pitching ace, Don Drysdale.

It is a historic fact in show business that Jack Benny is the best audience in the world. He laughs louder and longer than anybody. Oddly, although they've been pals and perennial trodders of the vaudeville boards for many decades, Benny and George Burns are each other's greatest fans.

"The guy can just walk into a room and he breaks me up," says Jack. When they appear on the same dais at stag events around Hollywood, the dialog is something to remember—and to shudder over. They are constantly contriving practical jokes.

Having attained the venerable age of 74 on Valentine's day, Jack is actually more occupied these days than in years past. He has made 60 appearances with major symphonies around the country at no fee to himself, raising close to \$4.5 million for symphony funds in the process. He has racked up box office records all over the U.S. and in Canada. Next month he goes to London for several TV shows and concerts.

Also in March he will deliver to U.C.L.A. all the memorabilia of his show business career, which he began saving upon his first professional appearance (in Knickerbockers) in the pit orchestra of the Barrison theater in Waukegan, Ill., at age 16. He will donate all of his scripts, film, tape recordings, stills and clippings, and U.C.L.A. authorities are properly ecstatic over their coup.



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## Blogs to See

#### Fernando Llera Blog Cartoons



Mexican Senators manage to save 70%

expenditure s budget. -

@2019 fernandolleracartoons.com 3 hours ago

### Yowp



Jazzstones - Hovt Curtin seemed quite comfortable

with jazzy

brassy arrangements, so perhaps it's appropriate one of his famous theme songs got a guitar jazz workout. ... 3 hours ago

### News From ME

Today's Video Links - I'm having a great deal of trouble not thinking about the recent shootings. Here are James Corden and Trevor Noah on the topic. In the days of Steve Allen,... 7 hours ago

## 🖺 Cartoon Research

Bugz' Livez: Antz (Pt. 1) -No. this article's not all about Dreamworks or Pixar. It's summer - so I figured we need something appropriate for the season. Summer means picnics. And p... 10 hours ago

#### Rip Jagger's Dojo



At The Earth's Core! - \*At The Earth's Core\* is a delightful romp of



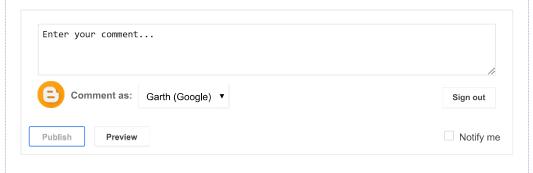
Does Jack have any secrets of eternal youth? Nothing spectacular. "I've been blessed with good health and an ability to relax. I love to fiddle and I play the violin to keep myself amused during the long waits between television shots. Mainly, I love doing what I'm doing, I enjoy my work so much, I think I would do it for nothing . . . BUT DON'T PRINT THAT!" he screams.

Posted by Yowp at <u>07:15</u>

Labels: Jack Benny

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pure science fantasy. The classic tale by Edgar Rice Burroughs is well told in this John Dark produced and ... 12 hours ago

# The World of Knight



LAST NIGHT -The sky was a beautiful color last night.

2 days ago

# Way Too Damn Lazy To Write A Blog



Happy
Birthday to
20th
Century
jazz great
Lenny
Breau! -

\*"Lenny Breau was the best guitarist to ever shit between two boots." Jerry Reed\* \*"Lenny was a comet passing through" Chet Atkins\* \*"If you had dropped...

2 days ago

# Termite Terrace headlines



Commercial Corner August--Mel Blanc (In Person) -Mel Blanc

had been in several commercials as an

actor. All of which he mentions that he is the voice of the Looney Tunes characters. In the American Expre...

2 days ago

### Movies with Michael



Seeing The Gold Rush (1925) at the Old Town Music Hall - Last night I had

the incredible pleasure of watching Charlie Chaplin's\* The Gold Rush\* (1925) at the Old Town Music Hall in

movi... 3 days ago

#### Mark Kausler's CatBlog

El Segundo, CA. This is a

Racketty Ann's Mystery Flight! - Here are pages 5 through eight of "Racketty Ann and the Lost World". There's delightful fantasy here as Racketty Ann and Bla Bla take a ride on the back o...

2 weeks ago

# Peter Gray's Comics and Art



New blog on my Art work...Origi nal art...prints for sale 8/7/2019 Tralfaz: Doesn't Slow Down

petergrayart

ist@gmail.com for prices

https://petergrayart.blogspot .com/ Will update it like I do on facebook.

4 weeks ago

Supervised By Fred
Avery: Tex Avery's
Warner Brothers
Cartoons



Coming Soon To This Blog...

2 months ago

#### What About Thad? Chris Reccardi Interviewed

- I don't want to start a practice of publishing an interview every time someone from Ren & Stimpy dies, but Chris Reccardi (1964-2019) was too important a f...

2 months ago

### Likely Looney, Mostly Merrie

That's all, folks! - My posts have gotten thinner over the years. I'm aware of that. I've been hopeful for a long time, that I can remain active with blogging and sharing further.

6 months ago

## Kids, Eh?

#1288: Bird Call - #1288: Bird Call

10 months ago

### Cartoons, Model Sheets, & Stuff



Pete Hothead Model Sheets -Here are a few model sheets from

the first Pete Hothead short. Released in 1952 and directed former Tom & Jerry animator Pete Burness. Ted Parmelee was the...

1 year ago

# Dr. Grob's Animation Review

### Leptiri (Butterflies) -

'Butterflies' is a film from the Zagreb Film studio, when the once famous studio was already in its decline.

1 hour ago

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He Can't See, But He Can Sell

Mickey Plays Mickey

A Likely Story

Radio's Tart Aftertaste

Rough on Rats

We Attack At Dawn

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A Curious Combination of Sentiment and Hard Common...

Organ and Harp(o)

Harpo For Madame

The Not-Quite Ink Spots

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She Worked for Cod Liver Oil

Jack and the President

Cartoons of 1960, Part 2

Betty Boop Kills Bugs Dead

Tedd and Tom at the Big Game

The Night Owl Who Was a Friend to Bass

Noise!!

**Banquet Busting** 

Toiling on TV Without "Clamor and Castigation"

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Obsolete is On the Air!

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How To Fix a Horse

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