



Sunday, 21 July 2019

## Think Young, Stay Young



One of the reasons so many people were shocked when Jack Benny died was he looked not only healthy up until a few months before his death, but didn't appear to be 80 years old, which he was.

He talked about youth to North American Newspaper Alliance columnist Cindy Adams, and talked about critics as well. Critics were generally kind to him, but he could get snippy about unfavourable reviews or low ratings. To be honest, though they are nostalgic today, at the time they aired Benny's TV specials were really for Benny fans only. I doubt they attracted a new audience (especially followers of the counter-culture), even with overly obvious attempts to do it by booking "with-it" guests like Isaac Hayes who don't look like they belong on the same screen with someone who had spent more than 20 years in vaudeville.

This was published April 26, 1968.

### Jack Benny, at 39 Twice, Credits 'Thinking Young'

By CINDY ADAMS

NEW YORK (NANA)— At the age where he can almost celebrate his 39th birthday twice, Jack Benny is called by chums "the Jewish Dorian Gray."

Deep in the heart of his 70's, his smooth, unlined face is that of a man in his 40's. Being that I know Jack and being that I also hail from peasant stock, I asked straight out if he'd ever had his face lifted.

"No, but I'm certainly flattered you think so," he grinned. "Tell you one thing, though. If I had lifted it I'd gladly admit it. I'm in a business where I must look as well as I can. I'm not a fat clown like Buddy Hackett with a funny characteristic to fall back on or point up, so I have to try and look as well as I can.

"TO ME, THERE'S no shame in having a hairpiece or lifting your face or wearing a girdle. It's the same as fixing a broken arm or repairing a bent finger. I did consult my doctor recently about tightening the extra skin on my neck a bit, but he was against it I have diabetes and at my age he said he's prefer that I don't. If I badly needed it I'd do it, though. Meanwhile, when I'm being made up for television, we use a dark shade on my neck to make it less pronounced."

"You have your own teeth, your own hair," I said admiringly. "Tell me, what's the formula for staying young."

"Thinking young," said Benny. "In my act at the Waldorf, I have a teenage girl with me. I've always utilized youngsters. New talent gives you new life. Bob Hope and I are a toss-up as to who's the world's biggest ham. He says I am and I say he is. But the point is neither of us stop. We both keep up to date. We both travel. We both keep going. I still play as much golf as I can. Sometimes it's only nine holes but at least I play!"

BENNY'S LONGTIME manager, Irving Fein, and the Waldorf's publicity girl, Lola Priess, were shushking loudly in another corner of the suite. Benny peered over once . . . twice . . . then hollered, "Hey, . . . young lady . . . er . . . what's your name?"

"Lola," she hollered back. "Well, listen, Lola, do me a favor, will ya?" "Sure," came the returning holler.

"Shaddup," yelled Jack Benny. Then, grinning happily when everybody broke up, the professional cheapskate of radio and TV fame continued, "Of course, I have reached the point where I no longer stoop to pick up a penny. It now has to be at least a nickel."

And can a Jack Benny, at this stage in the game, ever flop on stage?

"NO, I DON'T really think so," he answered slowly, thinking about it. "My trouble is with critics, not audiences. If I've done two or three good shows in a row, they just figure it's time they rapped me, so they do. I

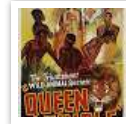
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which takes footage from an even earlier silent film and tries to bond some new scenes. It's not reall...

11 hours ago

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13 hours ago

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care. - ©2019 fernandollera.com  
23 hours ago

#### Movies with Michael



[Cowboy Church #19](#) - Hello my friends and welcome to another addition of

Cowboy Church. We start

feel that after my many years of producing good entertainment they should be more considerate, but they aren't.

"See, I know what's good for me. I know how to handle my audiences. That's why I'd be a lousy director. I'd always make everybody do things the way I'd do them because that is the only way I know.

"My comedy isn't funny on paper. It's only funny in the way I make it work. Even if my audience should be bad, they'll never know it and neither will anybody watching because somehow, somehow, I'll be able to pull something out.

"Let me put it this way," he smiled. "I can always keep a show from not being as bad as some of my critics will say it was!"

Posted by [Yowp](#) at [07:00](#)

Labels: [Jack Benny](#)

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our music selection off with  
The Sons of the Pioneers'  
1947 recording of the go...  
*1 day ago*



**The World of Knight**



**SATURDAY  
AFTERNOON** - Nice  
view. I  
actually  
drew it into  
a panel

today.

*1 day ago*



**Termite Terrace  
headlines**



Animation  
Websites in  
the Archive  
#1 - The  
newest  
series!

These are  
some of the best websites  
on animation that are either  
unsung or just have been  
wiped out from the internet.  
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**Way Too Damn Lazy To  
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Comedy  
Rorschach  
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13 years  
and 1072  
posts,

only...

*2 days ago*



**Yowp**



Fewer  
Drawings,  
More  
Gimmicks -  
Adult  
humour  
today isn't

what it was 60 years ago.  
Today, "adult" humour  
brings to mind a lot of  
sexual references and  
crudity. In other words, the  
stuff...

*2 days ago*

**Mark Kausler's CatBlog**

**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 days ago*



**Peter Gray's Comics and  
Art**



New blog  
on my Art  
work...Original  
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etc.. -

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



[Coming Soon To This Blog...](#)


1 month 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 furth...  
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**

[Zozor ruine la réputation de sa famille \(Zozor Ruins the Reputation of His Family\)](#) - After his move to the United States in 1912 Émile Cohl starting experimenting with putting the idiom of comic strips to the animated screen, being the firs...  
2 hours ago

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