



THE BIG COMEDY RADIO PROGRAM

EDITED BY ROSS FIRESTONE

ORIGINAL SCRIPTS FROM THE GREAT DAYS
OF RADIO - WITH FRED ALLEN, JACK BENNY
BOB HOPE, EDDIE CANTOR, HENRY MORGAN
EDGAR BERGEN AND CHARLIE MCCARTHY
BOB AND RAY, THE MARK BROTHERS
JIMMY DURANTE AND GARY MOORE
W.C. FIELDS AND MANY OTHERS

The Big Radio Comedy Program

Harry Castleman, Walter J. Podrazik



The Big Radio Comedy Program:

The Haunted Smile Lawrence J. Epstein, 2008-08-05 Lawrence Epstein's *The Haunted Smile* tackles a subject both poignant and delightful: the story of Jewish comedians in America. For the past century and more, American comedy has drawn its strength and soul from the comic genius of Jewish performers and writers. An incomplete listing of names makes the point: The Marx Brothers, Jack Benny, Fanny Brice, George Burns, Milton Berle, Jackie Mason, Joan Rivers, Rodney Dangerfield, Mel Brooks, Alan King, Mort Sahl, Buddy Hackett, Woody Allen, Lenny Bruce, Andy Kaufman, Richard Belzer, Jerry Seinfeld. These men and women, among others, form the canon of Jewish American comedy. In the words of the *Detroit Jewish News*, *The Haunted Smile* offers us a deep and subtle understanding of how Jewish culture and American openness gave birth to a new style of entertainment. Often the best way to illuminate a point is to recount some of these comedians' own brilliant routines, and Epstein uses the comedian's work to great effect, making for a book that is both a thoughtful work of history and a great deal of fun.

Focus On: 100 Most Popular Vaudeville Performers Wikipedia contributors, *Jimmy Durante* David Bakish, 2007-03-07 From his humble beginnings as a Coney Island piano player, Jimmy Durante was one of America's best-loved entertainers for nearly seven decades. Known for his distinctive schnozzle and raspy voice, the multitalented performer became a stage, screen, and recording star. Every aspect of Jimmy Durante's career is covered here: his early vaudeville and Broadway days, the 38 movies he made, his radio appearances, the mixture of new and old material he brought to television in the late 1950s, and his work as a singer and composer.

Watching TV Harry Castleman, Walter J. Podrazik, 2024-12-16 Castleman and Podrazik present a season-by-season narrative that encompasses the eras of American television from the beginning in broadcast through cable and now streaming. They deftly navigate the dizzying array of contemporary choices so that no matter where you start on the media timeline, *Watching TV* provides the context and background to this multi-billion-dollar enterprise. Drawing on decades of research, the authors weave together personalities, popular shows, corporate strategies, historical events, and changing technologies, enhancing the main commentary with additional elements that include fall prime-time schedule grids for every season, date-box timelines, highlighted key text, and selected photos. Full of facts, first insights, and exploits from now back to the earliest days, *Watching TV* is the standard chronology of American television, and reading it is akin to channel surfing through history. The fourth edition updates the story into the 2020s and looks ahead to the next waves of change. This new edition is the first to also be available in a digital format.

George Burns Lawrence J. Epstein, 2011-09-07 Having entered the world in 1896 as a poverty-stricken child named Naftaly Nathan Birnbaum, George Burns rose from New York's Lower East Side to the uppermost heights of celebrity in the entertainment industry. His storied romance with Gracie Allen led to their success in vaudeville, films, radio, and television as one of the greatest comedy teams in history. Burns experienced both tragedy and triumph during his 100-year lifespan, ultimately recovering from the death of his beloved Gracie in 1964 to re-emerge as a solo performer and an Oscar-winning actor. This all-inclusive biography explores

George Burns's career against the backdrop of American entertainment history in the 20th century. His loves, his close friendship with Jack Benny, his rivalry with Groucho Marx, and his latter-day success in films are all carefully detailed. **The Big Radio Comedy Program** Ross Firestone, 1978 *The Guide to United States Popular Culture* Ray Broadus Browne, Pat Browne, 2001 To understand the history and spirit of America one must know its wars, its laws, and its presidents. To really understand it, however, one must also know its cheeseburgers, its love songs, and its lawn ornaments. The long-awaited Guide to the United States Popular Culture provides a single volume guide to the landscape of everyday life in the United States. Scholars, students, and researchers will find in it a valuable tool with which to fill in the gaps left by traditional history. All American readers will find in it one entry at a time the story of their lives. Robert Thompson, President, Popular Culture Association. At long last, popular culture may indeed be given its due within the humanities with the publication of *The Guide to United States Popular Culture*. With its nearly 1600 entries, it promises to be the most comprehensive single volume source of information about popular culture. The range of subjects and diversity of opinions represented will make this an almost indispensable resource for humanities and popular culture scholars and enthusiasts alike. Timothy E. Scheurer, President, American Culture Association. The popular culture of the United States is as free-wheeling and complex as the society it animates. To understand it, one needs assistance. Now that explanatory road map is provided in this Guide, which charts the movements and people involved and provides a light at the end of the rainbow of dreams and expectations. Marshall W. Fishwick, Past President, Popular Culture Association. Features of *The Guide to United States Popular Culture* 1010 pages, 1600 entries, 500 contributors. Alphabetic entries. Entries range from general topics (golf, film) to specific individuals, items, and events. Articles are supplemented by bibliographies and cross references. Comprehensive index. **The American News Trade Journal**, 1924 **Television**, 1948 *Broadcasting & Cable*, 2007 **Broadcasting Yearbook**, 1941 **The Wireless Age**, 1921 *Newsweek*, 1954-09 *On Air* Mike Carlton, 2019-02 Mike Carlton was born to controversy. His father, Jimmy, a renowned Olympic athlete and later a Catholic priest, married his mother after a whirlwind wartime courtship. This scandal was hushed up at first but eventually it made headlines. Six years later, Jimmy Carlton died in his wife's arms, felled by asthma. It was a tough beginning. Mike would have a Sydney suburban childhood where every penny counted. Unable to afford a university education, he left school at sixteen to begin a life in journalism that would propel him to the top as one of Australia's best-known media figures. In an often turbulent career of more than fifty years, he has been a war correspondent, political reporter, a TV news and current affairs reporter, an award-winning radio presenter in both Sydney and London, an outspoken newspaper columnist, and a biting satirist. In later life, he realised a lifelong ambition to write three bestselling books of Australian naval history. *On Air* is his story, no holds barred. With characteristic humour and flair, Mike tells of the feuds and the friendships, the fun and the follies, writing candidly of the extraordinary parade of characters and events he has encountered in the unique life he has led. **Broadcasting**, 1964 **The Billboard**, 1950 London

Calling ,1947 *This Won't Hurt a Bit!* Vicki Gabereau,1987 Interviews conducted by the author with various people
Broadcasting, Telecasting ,1957 **Town Journal** ,1932-07

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