



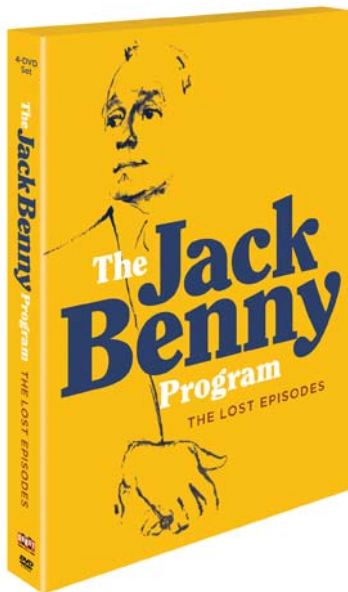
For Immediate Release

The Jack Benny Program: The Lost Episodes

**3-DVD Box Set Features Genuine Rarities Unseen for More
Than 50 Years**

**Exclusive Edition with Bonus DVD Available June 18, 2013
only from ShoutFactory.com**

Available Nationwide July 23rd, 2013 from Shout! Factory



From its beginnings as an immensely popular radio program to its heyday as the premiere situation comedy on television, *The Jack Benny Program* and its eponymous star are counted among the most gifted influences in the history of American comedy. One of the leading entertainers of the 20th century, the trials and tribulations of Jack Benny's "Everyman" character kept millions of fans laughing for over 30 years.

On July 23rd, 2013, Shout! Factory and NBCUniversal Television Consumer Products will release *The Jack Benny Program: The Lost Episodes*, a three-DVD collection that celebrates the enduring heart, soul and wit of this American icon. Lovingly restored by the UCLA Film & Television Archive, this first of its kind set features 18 episodes of the beloved program — unseen since their original broadcast — plus all-new bonus features including excerpts from the Jack Benny color television specials, an new interview with Harry

Shearer, director Norman Abbott and Benny's secretary Dorothy Ohman; newsreels featuring rare footage from the 1930s and '40s, a 16-page booklet and much more.

Starting June 18th, 2013, fans and collectors who order their copy directly from ShoutFactory.com will receive a bonus DVD of "Omnibus: *The Horn Blows at Midnight*." Unseen since its broadcast 60 years ago, "Omnibus: *The Horn Blows At Midnight*" stars

Benny as Athanael the trumpeting angel, a role which he originated in the 1945 feature film *The Horn Blows At Midnight*. This genuinely rare live production of the celebrated TV series *Omnibus* was adapted from *The Ford Theater's* 1949 radio broadcast of *The Horn Blows At Midnight*.

In addition to the recurring character lineup of Jack, Don, Mary and Eddie "Rochester" Anderson; ***The Jack Benny Program: The Lost Episodes*** also features a superb lineup of guest stars including Natalie Wood, Red Skelton, Gary Cooper, George Burns, John Wayne, Dick Van Dyke, Billy Graham, Milton Berle, Tony Curtis and President Harry Truman.

Jack Benny Program: The Lost Episodes 3-DVD Box Set

DISC 1

10/7/1956

Guests: George Burns, Spike Jones

Jack is extremely nervous about his debut at Carnegie Hall. George Burns appears as the devil and makes a Faustian pact with Jack to make him the greatest concert artist.

10/21/1956

Guests: George Gobel, Red Skelton

Jack and George Gobel vie to be elected President of the Beverly Hills Beavers, a Boy Scout-type organization of neighborhood youths.

11/4/1956 "Jack Invited to the Colmans"

Guests: Ronald and Benita Colman

Jack mistakenly receives an invitation to a dinner at the home of Ronald and Benita Colman. Arriving in his tuxedo, he tries in vain to pretentiously fit in with the upper-crust British crowd.

9/21/1958

Guest: Gary Cooper

Gary Cooper discusses his latest movie, *Man of the West*, and Jack tries to get himself cast in Coop's next picture. The part is for Cooper's twin brother, and Jack attempts to man up and measure up.

10/4/1959 "Jack Switches Sponsors"

Jack is found sleeping because his show has moved from 7:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M., and contemplates how his show will be 30 years from now.

10/18/1959

Guest: President Harry S. Truman

Jack recalls visiting the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri. The former President gives Jack a personal tour of the facility, and they share their mutual love of music.

Bonus Feature

Conversation With Actor And Satirist Harry Shearer, Director Norman Abbott And Dorothy Ohman

As a child actor, Harry Shearer built his acting chops as a periodic performer on Jack's radio and television programs, including appearances on Jack's last weekly radio show. Norman Abbott served as Jack's television director for two programs in 1961, then took up the mantle consistently starting on December 31, 1963, through the end of Jack's weekly television series on April 16, 1965. Dorothy Ohman served as Jack's personal secretary and assistant from 1957 through the remainder of his life.

DISC 2

11/29/1959

Guest: Jack Paar

Jack Paar asks if Jack would replace him as a host on *The Tonight Show* while Paar is on vacation.

3/6/1960

Guests: Robert Wagner, Natalie Wood

Jack tells CBS executives that he wants to “broaden out” and direct a *Playhouse 90* TV episode. He rehearses a dramatic scene with Robert Wagner and Natalie Wood, and chaos ensues.

4/17/1960 “The Easter Show”

Jack and his girlfriend, Mildred Meyerhauser, dress up to walk in the Easter Parade on Wilshire Boulevard. They encounter many of the usual gang of eccentrics, including Jack’s long-suffering violin teacher, Professor LeBlanc.

5/1/1960

Jack discusses his trip to the Far East, including “Japan’s #1 announcer” doing the middle commercial. The sponsors have a plan for cutting costs on the program, which leaves Jack extremely wired.

10/16/1960

Guests: George Burns, Tony Curtis, Robert Wagner, Mike Wallace

Everyone is talking about Jack’s show going weekly, and wondering if he is up to the challenge.

10/30/1960

Guest: Milton Berle

Milton Berle coaches Jack on what it takes to do a weekly comedy show.

Bonus Features

Jack Benny’s New Look

December 3, 1969

Featuring guest star George Burns

Jack Benny’s 20th Anniversary Special

February 17, 1969

Featuring guest stars Dinah Shore and Frank Sinatra

*Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About Jack Benny
But Were Afraid to Ask*

March 10, 1971

Featuring guest stars Lucille Ball and John Wayne.

Jack Benny’s Second Farewell Special

January 24, 1974

Featuring guest stars Dinah Shore, Don Rickles and George Burns.

DISC 3

11/20/1960

Guests: Jaye P. Morgan, John Wayne

Jack introduces celebrities in the audience, including John Wayne. When guest singer Jaye P. Morgan appears, Wayne whispers to Jack that he wants a date with her – and gets it.

12/24/1961 “Christmas Show”

CBS is throwing a Christmas party, and Jack and Rochester give gifts to all the cast members. Mel Blanc makes his first TV appearance since his near-fatal auto accident eleven months earlier on January 24, 1961 (his wheelchair elicits no comment).

2/18/1962

Guests: Hugh Downs, Rock Hudson

Jack debates the psychology of sex appeal with Rock Hudson. Jack wants to do a show like Jack Paar's *The Tonight Show*, and illustrates the concept with the help of Hudson and Hugh Downs.

1/29/1963 "The Murder of Clayton Worthington"

Guest: Dick Van Dyke

Dick Van Dyke says that he has been warned that Jack "works his guests to death." In the skit, Jack plays an inspector investigating a murder who questions everyone in the house – all played by Van Dyke.

9/24/1963 "Reverend Billy Graham"

Guest: Billy Graham

Jack, Don and Dennis imitate Peter, Paul, and Mary in response to the folk-singing craze. Billy Graham asks Jack why comedians insult each other to get laughs, and the gang demonstrates what would happen if they didn't.

12/25/1964

Guest: Gisele MacKenzie

Jack states that he let the members of his cast have the night off, so he goes into the audience to chat with the folks. There he finds Gisele MacKenzie, and they perform their classic violin duet.

Bonus Features

Hearst Newsreel, unedited footage

May 1935

Jack delivers a ridiculous and difficult monologue about Daylight Saving Time.

Hearst Newsreel, unedited footage

May 1941

In rehearsals for Jack's May 9th celebration of his 10th anniversary in radio, Rochester delivers a joke for the dinner.

Hearst News Of The Day, Volume 12, Number 279

June 16, 1941

Child star Carolyn Lee tells Jack about a program to save defense stamps to redeem for defense bonds.

Hearst Newsreel, unedited footage

December 1945

Jack and a staff of secretaries review a deluge of entries for the "I Can't Stand Jack Benny Because . . ." contest.

About Shout! Factory

Shout! Factory, LLC is a diversified multi-platform media company devoted to producing, uncovering, preserving and revitalizing the very best of pop culture. Founders Richard Foos, Bob Emmer and Garson Foos have spent their entire careers sharing their music, television and film favorites with discerning consumers the world over. Shout! Factory's DVD and Blu-Ray™ offerings serve up feature films, classic and contemporary TV series, animation, live music and comedy specials in lavish packages crammed with extras. Shout's audio division boasts GRAMMY®-nominated box sets, Broadway cast albums, new releases from storied artists, lovingly assembled album reissues and indispensable "best of" compilations. In

addition, Shout! Factory maintains a vast digital distribution network which delivers video and audio content to all the leading digital service providers in North America. Shout! Factory also owns and operates Timeless Media Group, Biograph Records, Majordomo Records, HighTone Records and Video Time Machine. These riches are the result of a creative acquisition mandate that has established the company as a hotbed of cultural preservation and commercial reinvention. Shout! Factory is based in Santa Monica, California. For more on Shout! Factory, visit shoutfactory.com

About NBCUniversal Television Consumer Products Group

NBCUniversal is a leader in providing entertainment programming to the domestic and international marketplaces. NBCUniversal Television Consumer Products Group manages all global ancillary television business endeavors for the NBCUniversal Television Group, including third-party home entertainment distribution, consumer products, musical soundtracks, special markets projects and the NBCUniversal Online Store. For the latest product updates and an overview of the properties managed by the group, visit the NBCUniversal Television Consumer Products portal at <http://nbcuconsumerproducts.com>.

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