

# The wacky, wonderful world of Edie Adams returns again (Photos)

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Ever Edie! (Author's Collection)



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She was so much more than just Ernie Kovacs' wife.

Indeed, Elizabeth Edith Enke was a force to be dealt with . . . gorgeous, talented and funny.

Edie Adams was very, very funny. (We got to see the perky redhead/blonde in action, in person, in two Broadway musicals, *Wonderful Town* (1953) and *Li'l Abner* (1956), the latter of which she won a Tony for her delicious role of Daisy Mae. OK. So we're old.)

And so this exciting news, this announcement from Edie's son Joshua Mills. More than 50 years after it premiered on ABC, the variety shows *Here's Edie* and *The Edie Adams Show* will be released on DVD and digital formats---the first time either television show has been seen in any format since its original broadcast more than a half a century ago.

Produced and distributed via MVD Entertainment Group in association with Ediad Productions, ***Here's Edie: The Edie Adams Television Collection*** will hit shelves on November 19, 2013. Cannot wait? Pre-orders are available at [www.edieadams.com](http://www.edieadams.com) as well as [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.seeofsound.com](http://www.seeofsound.com).

There's a definite "wow" factor here, some of which resides in the eclectic guest stars Edie was able to secure for the show. Jazz fans will be able to see rare performance footage of such giants as Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Stan Getz, Lionel Hampton, Woody Herman and Al Hirt. Popular vocalists include Sammy Davis Jr., Bobby Darin and Johnny Mathis. Comedians include Bob Hope, Rowan & Martin, Soupy Sales, Buddy Hackett, Dick Shawn and Terry-Thomas who co-starred with Adams in the 1963 big-screen fun fest *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World*. Classical music fans will also be rewarded with performances by Andre Previn, Lauritz Melchior and Laurindo Almeida.

Unlike any variety show before or since, *Here's Edie The Edie Adams Television Collection* is a tour-de-force for a female entertainer in the early '60s. After the sudden passing of her husband (<http://www.examiner.com/review/tv-s-funniest-performer-think-back-way-back-think-ernie-kovacs>) in January 1962, Edie forged ahead with her own headlining show, showcasing her many talents. She hosts, sings, dances, acts, takes an uncredited role of costumer Enke, even produces her show. While much has been said of Edie's preservation efforts of the Kovacs archive, she also left behind a stunning body of her own work that survives due only to her indefatigable preservation efforts.

This 12-hour, four-disc set features a new digital transfer from original two-inch videotapes of the entire 1962-64 run of 21 episodes. Yes, her famed Muriel Cigar commercials are also here. Remember what a tease she was? Edie, wearing the slinkiest of dresses and the highest of heels, caressed oversized cigars, gave a come-hither wink, and whispered, "Why don't you pick one up and smoke it some time?"

Hotter than ash.

And the bonus footage! There are rarely seen gems of Edie's musical numbers from numerous Ernie Kovacs shows of the '50s with introductions from Kovacs himself. Other bonus features include a set of commercial promos by Adams and another Mad World co-star Sid Caesar, a Muriel Cigars promotional film and a lush booklet packed with rare photos from the family archive, an essay from Mills and a show-by-show rundown from Ernie Kovacs and Adams curator and DVD co-producer Ben Model.

Conceptualized by Adams, her shows were themed, and taped in-studio as well as on location. This includes entire episodes shot in a Las Vegas hotel/casino nightclub, another on the streets of London, one shot entirely in the sparse Nevada desert, another in New York City.