

Edie Adams' 1960s TV show set for DVD release for 1st time ever (Video)



Ernie Kovacs and Edie Adams sing "Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life." (Comedic skit.) (www.youtube.com)



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After a half-century-plus wait, the variety show "**Here's Edie: The Edie Adams Show**" will soon be available on DVD and digital formats for the first time since its original-broadcast premiere on the ABC-TV network.

A Tony Award-winning actress who starred in many classic films such as Billy Wilder's "The Apartment," Stanley Kramer's "It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World" and "Love With A Proper Stranger," **Edie Adams** was perhaps best known as the Muriel Cigar girl

("Why don't you pick one up and smoke it sometime?"). However, the Emmy-nominated actress also was known as a film preservationist for her efforts in saving the Ernie Kovacs' (and her own) library from extinction.

“*It's not every day you get to announce the release a four-DVD box set of your mom's television shows; in fact, it hasn't happened in more than 50 years!*” said Josh Mills, Adams' rightfully proud son, in an Aug. 5 email correspondence with Examiner.com.

"It's with great pride I can finally announce that 'Here's Edie: The Edie Adams Show' Television Collection from MVD Entertainment will be released just in time for the holidays on Nov. 19, 2013, complete with **her classic Muriel Cigar commercials** intact," he

added.

Produced and distributed via **MVD Entertainment Group** in association with Ediad Productions, "Here's Edie: The Edie Adams Television Collection" is set for release in stores across North America and internationally this fall. But the 12-hour DVD set is now available for preorder at **Amazon.com**, **Seeofsound.com**, **Edieadams.com** and other online retailers.

After the sudden passing of her husband **Ernie Kovacs** in January 1962, Adams forged ahead with her own headlining show, showcasing her many talents. A tour-de-force for a female entertainer in the early 1960s, Adams hosted, sang, danced, acted and delivered comedy; never mind that she also took an uncredited role of costumer Enke and produced her own show.

“*Although much has been said of Adams' preservation efforts of the Ernie Kovacs' archive, she also left behind a stunning body of her own work that survives due only to her indefatigable preservation efforts.*”

According to a media statement regarding the DVD collection, "The 'wow' factor of this box set resides in the eclectic guest stars Edie Adams was personally able to secure for the show. Jazz fans will be able to see, rare performance footage of giants such as Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Stan Getz, Lionel Hampton, Woody Herman and Al Hirt, among others."

Moreover, popular vocalists who took part in the show included Sammy Davis Jr., Bobby Darin and Johnny Mathis, to name but three. Comedians who were guests included Bob Hope, Rowan & Martin and Soupy Sales, along with Buddy Hackett, Dick Shawn and Terry Thomas, who co-starred with Adams in the classic motion-picture "It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World."

Meanwhile, fans of classical music can look forward to performances by Andrew Previn, Lauritz Melchior and Laurindo Almeida, not to mention other guests, from Allan Sherman, Spike Jones, Peter Falk, and Sir Michael Redgrave, to Zsa Zsa Gabor, Buddy Hackett and more.

Guest stars aside, Adams has her own well-known fans, including Paul "Pee Wee Herman" Reubens. Says Reubens of Adams: "I'm a huge Edie Adams fan, from way before I had the

honor of meeting her and finding out first-hand how sweet she was. She had it all — gorgeous and sexy, smart, talented and hilarious! Wow!”

Video bonus: To see Ernie Kovacs and Edie Adams sing "Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life," please access the vintage clip embedded with this post.