

THE JUDY ROOM

2004 YEAR IN REVIEW



"JUDY IN THE MOVIES"

2004 might best be summed up with the phrase *Judy Garland In The Movies*. Most of the major Garland-related releases centered around Judy's legendary film career. And the bulk of it was, of course, her films for MGM. A quick glance reveals:

- **TWO** DVD boxed sets
- A total of **NINE** single disc DVDs
- **ONE** newly restored soundtrack on CD
- **PLUS** a new PBS special and other celebrations on television

"Over The Rainbow" topped the American Film Institute's list of "100 Years 100 Songs". Judy was the most represented female with a total of six of her performances making the final list.

Judy's masterpiece *A Star Is Born* (Warner Bros. 1954) turned 50. The soundtrack album for the film has never been out of release, including a newly expanded edition on CD in 2004.

2004 was also the 35th anniversary of Judy Garland's death on June 22nd, 1969. However, time has not diminished the effect that Judy Garland continues to have on audiences and fans across all generations. The respect, admiration, and awe of her talent seems only to have increased as Judy's life and career continues to delight and fascinate us.

This inaugural "Year In Review" newsletter from *The Judy Room* spotlights the major Garland-related happenings of 2004.

Enjoy!



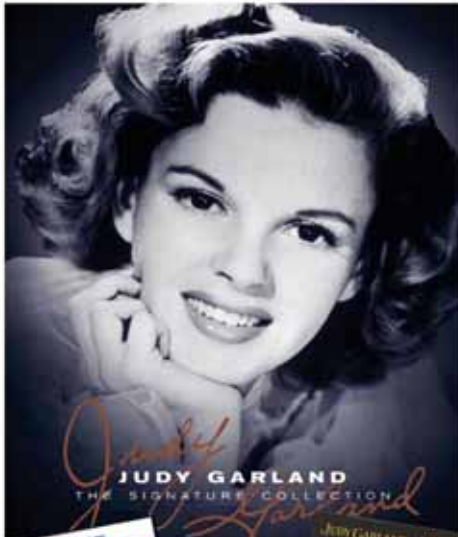
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TWO FANTASTIC DVD BOXED SETS!

THE SIGNATURE COLLECTION

Warner Home Video
Released April 6, 2004



The drought of Judy's films on DVD ended when Warner Home Video pulled out all the stops with this fantastic SEVEN disc collection.

New to DVD: *Love Finds Andy Hardy* (1938); *Ziegfeld Girl* (1941); *For Me And My Gal* (1942); & *In The Good Old Summertime* (1949).

Also included: The previously-issued *The Wizard Of Oz* (1939); *The Harvey Girls* (1946) & *A Star Is Born* (1954).

All the films have been newly restored or transferred for the best possible picture and sound. The black & white films look exceptionally sharp and vivid, much more than in previous VHS or Laser Disc editions. Plus, each DVD contains many extras including:

La Fiesta de Santa Barbara (1935 MGM short featuring "The Garland Sisters")

Every Sunday (1936 MGM short featuring Judy with Deanna Durbin)

A New Romance of Celluloid: We Must Have Music (1942 MGM short)

For Me and My Gal Deleted Finale (with stills montage)

Several "Leo Is on the Air" Radio Promos

And: Musical outtakes, more radio shows, theatrical trailers, special commentaries and so much more!

This set is the only Warner Home Video "Signature Collection" to feature a total of seven films. All the other star sets (Humphrey Bogart, James Cagney, etc.) contain only five films. Guess that Warners realized Judy Garland is a cut above the rest! Or, maybe since they already had these films "on the shelf" they simply decided to throw them in!! Whatever the case, Garland fans benefit from this definitive DVD representation of Judy's film career.



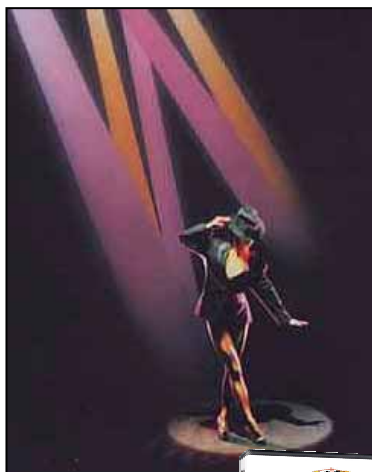
Also included are these previously released DVDs



THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

- 4-DISC SPECIAL EDITION

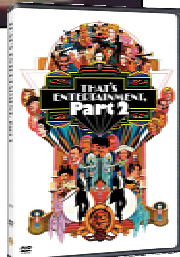
Warner Home Video Released October 12, 2004



All three *That's Entertainment* films finally make their debut on DVD, in single disc editions as well as in a specially priced "complete collection" set. The boxed set features a fourth disc full of more outtake material and other extras! This extra disc is only available in the boxed set.

Of course, Judy is heavily featured in all of the films, as well as the bonus disc. The 1994 documentary about the making of *That's Entertainment III* has some great behind-the-scenes footage featuring several shots of Judy just before and/or after filming some of her numbers. Judy's deleted songs "Last Night When We Were Young" (*In The Good Old Summertime* 1949) and "Mr. Monotony" (from *Easter Parade* 1948) are included.

The greatest anthology series about Hollywood that Hollywood ever produced. And only MGM could have done it!



Available in single editions
or with the boxed set

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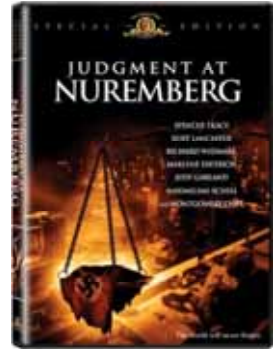


I COULD GO ON SINGING JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG

MGM/UA also got into the DVD act by releasing two more new-to-DVD Garland films: *Judgment At Nuremberg* (1961) & Judy's final film *I Could Go On Singing* (1963). The discs are short on extras, but that's OK! Just to have these two films on DVD is a treasure. *I Could Go On Singing* has not been available since its last release on VHS & Laser Disc quite a few years ago.

The digital transfers of both are quite marvelous, as is the sound quality. And we finally get to see *I Could Go On Singing* in letterbox, as it should be seen. Definite "must haves".

I Could Go On Singing DVD released May 11, 2004
Judgment At Nuremberg DVD released September 7, 2004



A STAR IS BORN - NEWLY EXPANDED CD SOUNDTRACK

Columbia Legacy
Released April 6, 2004

Judy's greatest screen triumph! The Columbia soundtrack album has never been out of release since its premier in 1954, but this newly expanded soundtrack is by far the definitive version. *A Star Is Born* was first released on CD in 1998 utilizing some of the stereo soundtrack from the 1983 restoration of the film. Aside from the "Overture" being added, not much was different from the previously available LP record version.

This new edition from Columbia Legacy features not just the remastered songs, but adds most of the beautiful underscoring tracks as conducted by Ray Heindorf. Also included is the outtake "When My Sugar Walks Down The Street" and an expanded "playback disc" version of "The Trinidad Coconut Oil Shampoo Commercial".



MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS - 2-DISC 60TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION

Warner Home Video
Released April 6, 2004



This DVD is amazing. Using their new "Ultra-Resolution" process, Warner Home Video has achieved a new level in picture and sound restoration. The true colors, the perfect depth perception, and the sharpness of the picture all come together to make this the definitive edition of one of the most memorable musicals ever made.

The sound is glorious too. Remastered into true stereo from the original recording session masters, the film has a rich and full sound, placing Judy's voice front and center in the musical numbers as it should be. The restored stereo soundtrack was previously married to the film for the 1994 50th Anniversary Laser Disc and VHS editions, but here it sounds even better.

Meet Me In St. Louis was Judy's biggest MGM hit and second only to *Gone With The Wind* in box-office receipts at the time.

It has remained an enduring classic. Truly one of the greatest film musicals ever made.

Judy's soon-to-be-husband, Director Vincente Minnelli, infuses the film with a one of a kind look and feel, and an incredible attention to detail. Under his inspired direction, everything works perfectly. Including the ensemble cast: Margaret O'Brien, Lucille Bremer, Mary Astor, Leon Ames, and Tom Drake as Judy's "Boy Next Door".

The songs, by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane, are perfectly woven into the tapestry of the film. Song highlights include: "The Trolley Song", "The Boy Next Door", and the hauntingly beautiful "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas".

Judy never looked more beautiful as she does here, her first full-length color film since *The Wizard of Oz* (1939). In hindsight, it's funny to us that she originally resisted making the film. Wanting more adult roles, Judy didn't relish the thought of playing yet another love-struck teen. However, once she settled in to making the film, and understood that what Minnelli was filming was light years away from what she had previously done, she came to believe in the role and ended up giving one of her best and most understated performances.

A joy for all Garland and Movie Musicals fans!



MISCELLANEOUS

AMERICAN MASTERS



On February 25, 2004 PBS, in association with WNET New York, premiered "Judy Garland: By Myself" as a part of their "American Masters" series. This unique and well done documentary tells the story of Judy's life via her own words (voiced by Isobel Keating) and the words of those who knew and worked with her.

Utilizing rare clips from her films and TV specials, stills, and home movies, the producers give the viewer a fresh look at Judy Garland *the person*, without the usual heavy-handed focus on the negative aspects of her life. An altogether satisfying presentation of Judy Garland's life and career.



TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES - TWO SEPARATE EVENTS



April 2004: Judy Garland month on TCM! To commemorate the release of 6 new DVDs of Judy's films, Turner Classic Movies pays tribute to Judy all month long by showing just about all of her films.

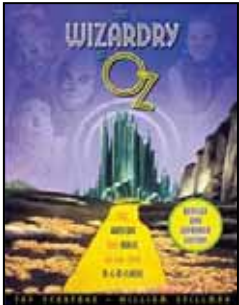
Plus - October 2004 Turner Classic Movies celebrated "Mad About Musicals" commemorating the 4-disc DVD Special Edition of the complete *That's Entertainment!* series. Judy's films are, of course, a big part of the line-up.



It's safe to say that Judy Garland will forever be remembered as the greatest female film musical star of the 20th Century!



THE WIZARDRY OF OZ



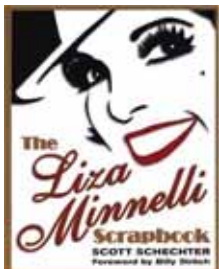
And we all thought that we had seen all there is to see about the making of Judy's legendary film *The Wizard of Oz* (MGM 1939)! But authors Jay Scarfone & William Stillman give us more rare glimpses into the creation of the film with the newly revised and updated "The Wizardry Of Oz".

Full of fun and never-before-seen photos (including Judy's earliest known hair and make-up test), the book is a Technicolor delight. Even Terry (the Cairn Terrier who played Toto) gets his own special mini-biography and filmography!

Published by Applause Books July 1, 2004



THE LIZA MINNELLI SCRAPBOOK JACK PAAR DVD



Published by Citadel Press
November 4, 2004

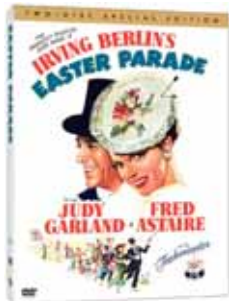
From author and Liza/Judy expert Scott Schechter comes the first comprehensive overview of Liza's life and career. Of course, Judy is heavily featured. Look for your very own Judy Room webmaster in photos "modeling" Liza t-shirts. But please disregard the short-lived goatee!

Episodes from Jack Paar's classic show were released on March 30, 2004 and of course, his interviews with Judy are highlights. A nice chance for the public to see Judy's incredible sense of humor and comic timing when telling show-biz stories as only she could!



Released by Sony Wonder
March 30, 2004

COMING IN 2005!



Easter Parade two-disc DVD: On March 15, 2005, Warner Home Video will release a special two-disc DVD edition of *Easter Parade*. This is the DVD debut of the film, and Warners is using the same "Ultra-Resolution Process" they used to restore *Meet Me In St. Louis*. The DVD will have new commentary by Garland expert John Fricke and Fred Astaire's daughter, Ava Astaire; a new documentary about the making of the film; the complete PBS American Masters special "Judy Garland - By Myself" (see above); Judy's deleted number "Mr. Monotony"; and other goodies. This set will also be included in a new, 5-DVD boxed set "Broadway To Hollywood" (see image below).



The Wizard Of Oz DVD Special Edition DVD:

As with their flawless restoration (using "Ultra-Resolution Process") of *Gone With The Wind*, Warner Home Video is scheduled to release *Oz* in the same manner. Hopefully in a 2 or 3 disc "Special Edition". No word yet on the extras, but expect to enjoy all of the extras on the existing single disc edition, as well as more. This will truly be a joy to behold, with a clarity of detail and color never before seen.

