

BACKGROUND
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BY INVITATION

Background

Sun 11:15-11:40 p.m., 5 Jul 1959-

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Ballades et chansons

Sun 5:30-6:00 p.m., 6 Jul-28 Sep 1969

Also known by its English title, Ballads and Songs, Ballades et chansons originated in different centres across the country, and featured local artists from the ten provinces. The musical selections, sung in both French and English, varied widely in type, and performers included choirs, vocal groups, and soloists. The series, which aired on the national network for two summers, was produced for Radio-Canada by Lisette LeRoy, and the host was Jacques Fauteux.

Ballads and Bards

Sat 6:30-6:45 p.m., 4 May-29 Jun 1963

Singer Reg Gibson, who had been a member of the chorus on Swingalong, and Jim Pirie, guitarist with the Selkirk Settlers on Red River Jamboree, had had a program of country music called Shenandoah on radio since 1962. In July 1962, they moved the program to television and changed its name to Ballads and Bards. It was seen in Winnipeg and Edmonton, and went national for nine weeks starting in May 1963.

The Bananas

Thu 4:30-5:00 p.m., 2 Jan-6 Feb 1969

Rod Coneybeare had successfully blended teaching and humour for young people in collaboration with Charles Winter on their radio program, The Rod and Charles Show, and with Bob Homme on The Friendly Giant, where Coneybeare played the voices of Rusty the Rooster and Jerome the Giraffe. With producer Robert Gibbons (who also produced Mr. Dressup), Coneybeare created The Bananas as an attempt to teach young people "attitudes through humour."

They auditioned about 150 performers in their search for versatile and zany principals to play their series of didactic, Laugh-In style sketches and blackouts. The four Bananas were Melody Greer, Francois-Regis Klanfer, Bonnie-Carol Case, and John Davies. Bananaland was populated with other "characters": The Blob, an electr

Genuine, Grade-A Gorilla. The other human presence in the show could be found in the Great Announcer, the offscreen voice of Alan Maitland.

The show had a theme song, "The Bananas," written by Jim Pirie and Rod Coneybeare. The series was aimed at viewers nine years of age and above. Producer Gibbons explained that the CBC planned to produce six or seven episodes, with the possibility of more in the coming seasons if it proved popular. Evidently, the series did not catch on.

Bandwagon With Bob Francis

Thu 9:30-10:00 p.m., 21 Sep 1972-21 Jun 1973

Thu/Fri 2:00-2:30 p.m., 13 Feb-28 Mar 1975

Bandwagon succeeded In The Mood as the CBC's musical variety half-hour devoted to big band music. The earlier show had limited itself to earlier tunes of the swing era, while Bandwagon offered more up-to-date arrangements and a quickly paced show.

The series was produced by Aubrey Tadman and Garry Ferrier, and directed by Barry Cranston. Regulars included host and vocalist Bob Francis, and trumpet player Guido Basso leading a band of top-flight Toronto studio musicians.

Barbara Frum

Tue 12:00-1:00 a.m., 1 Oct 1974-27 May 1975

Sat 9:00-10:00 p.m., 7 Jun-26 Jul 1975

Before developing The Journal, CBC television had tried to use the credibility Barbara Frum had gained for her incisive telephone interviews on the CBC radio program, As It Happens. One such attempt was a talk show, which aired on locally in Toronto on Tuesday midnights from October 1974 to May 1975 and moved to the national network for seven shows in June and July. The shows featured both interviews with personalities and special segments devoted to isolated topics. On the first network broadcast, her guests included Roman Gralewicz, the President of the Seafarers' International Union, and, for a surprise appearance, Gerda Munsinger, the woman at the centre of a 1966 sex and

security scandal that involved Cabinet Minister Pierre Seigny. Other guests included such journalists as Michael Magee, Charlotte Gobeil, Paul Rimstead, Allan Fotheringham, and Jack Webster.

The local show was produced by Michael Burns, with Associate Producer Eva Czigler, and directed by Dino Marcuz. The network show's Executive Producer was William Harcourt, its producer Larry Zolf, and its director Bryn Matthews.

Barney Boomer

Tue-Fri 4:31-4:59 p.m., 12 Sep 1967-9 Jan 1968

A light comedy series produced for young people by the CBC's Schools and Youth Department. A young man, Barney Boomer, had built a houseboat on which he planned to sail the Great Lakes. He anchors in Sixteen Harbour, at a

Barney's Gang

65-15043-1018 (mf02m) 24 Sep 1958

setbacks. The CBC had committed itself to only thirteen weeks. Broadcasts from the Olympic Games pre-empted the show for two weeks early in its broadcast schedule. Sponsors' commitments required that the show be at least thirty minutes duration. Hockey games that ran long set the commercial requirements of CBC variety in conflict with the demands of CBC news. Such problems, and a less specific discontent with the show caused its cancellation after thirteen weeks. It was to have been replaced by Comedy Cafe, but when that show was deemed not yet ready for national broadcast, the CBC revived Barris & Company until the end of January.

Barris tells his version of the problems in the show's production and broadcast history in a chapter of his memoir, *The Pierce- Arrow Showroom is Leaking* (Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1969), called "The Saturday Night Problem."

The Barris Beat

Wed 9:00-9:30 p.m., 4 Jul-12 Sep 1956

Sat 10:30-11:00 p.m., 20 Oct-30 Jun 1957

A columnist in the entertainment pages of the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, Alex Barris intermittently worked as a writer and host on local television programs, such as *Eleven Thirty Friday*. *The Barris Beat*, a variety show with interviews, music, and comic sketches, was designed as a summer replacement for *Cross Canada Hit Parade*. It was produced by Len Casey, and featured as regulars singers Betty Jean Ferguson and Roy Roberts, the vocal group the Gino Silvi Octet, and an orchestra led by Bill Isbister. Guests included Sammy Sales, Doug Romaine, Dave Broadfoot, Joey Hollingsworth, and the Willy Blok Hansen dance trio. In the middle of the summer season, Norman Jewison replaced Casey as producer and director, and Jack Duffy was added to the cast as a singer and actor, and in a repeating role as a copy boy to Barris's newspaper writer.

The CBC moved the show, at the end of the summer schedule, to a slot on every other Saturday night (alternating with *Wayne and Shuster*) following the hockey broadcast. For the cast, Jack Duffy and Roy Roberts remained, but Gloria Lambert replaced Betty Jean Ferguson. Jewison added comic actors Sammy Sales and Larry Mann. A musical trio of Sally Dory, Lorraine Thomson, and Andy Body, choreographed by Cynthia Barrett performed regularly. Sheila Billing and later Babs Christie appeared as the "billboard girl," and Bruce Marsh worked as the show's announcer. Gordon Kushner was hired as musical director, and Phil

Nimmons wrote musical arrangements. Barris, Sales, and Bernie Orenstein comprised the writing staff. Other writers in the show's history included Saul Ilson, Allan Manings, Frank Peppiatt, and, for a few weeks, Richard Lester.

Barry Morse Presents

Sun 9:50-10:00 p.m., 3 Jul-25 Sep 1960

Possible title: Presenting Barry Morse. No information available.

Baseball

The Beachcombers

Sun 7:00-7:30 p.m., 1 Oct 1972-To Date

Mon-Fri 5:00-5:30 p.m., 10 Sep 1979-5 Sep 1980 (R)



One of the few successful, continuing dramatic efforts the CBC has produced in its history, *The Beachcombers* revolves around the character of Nick Adonidas, and the star who plays him in this family-oriented series, Bruno Gerussi. As the series started, Nick was a middle-aged beachcomber who lived in rented quarters above Molly Carmody's diner. Molly lives with her two grandchildren, fourteen year old Hughie and eleven year old Margaret, and Nick has a young native partner, Jesse Jim. Rae Brown plays Molly, Bob Park plays Hughie, Juliet Randall plays Margaret, a role originated by Nancy Chapple, and Pat John portrays Jesse Jim. Robert Clothier plays Relic, another scavenger. Other regular actors have included Stefan Winfield, Diane Stapley (1978), and since 1980, Jackson Davies, Charlene Aleck, Dionne Luther, and Joe Austin. Viewers have watched the characters grow older through their exploits along the British Columbia coastline since they first appeared in October 1972. The filmed series has proven continually popular in its Sunday evening time slot (it originally followed the Walt Disney show), and it has sold widely around the world, from the U.K. to the middle east to Australia.

The Beachcombers was created by Marc and Susan Strange. The show's Executive Producers have been Philip Keatley (1972-1976), Elie Savoie (1976-1977), and Hu

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Babs Christie, Anna Wilmot, Bill Yule, Bob Van Norman, and Lloyd Malenfant), and Terry and the Macs (Terry Griffin and John, Jim, and Bill MacGillivray. It improved in quality as the production personnel gained experience in assembling and presenting live variety extravaganzas in Toronto's Studio A. However, the program always suffered by comparison with its more polished counterparts from the U.S.A.

A series of thirteen hour-long programs on aspects of medicine and science, with Jonathan Miller. Produced by BBC-TV in association with the CBC, the Ontario Educational Communications Authority, the Australian Broadcasting Company, and KCET-TV Los Angeles.

Bonjour, Bon Jour

Mon-Fri 9:00-9:15 a.m., 19 Sep 1977-29 May 1978

Mon-Fri 10:15-10:30 a.m., 29 May-29 Sep 1978

A daily, fifteen minute broadcast in both French and English for children, produced by Ken Buckley. Although bilingual, the program was not intended specifically for language instruction. Manon Bernard, who played Colette Jarry on the Radio-Canada series Rue des Pignons, talked or play-acted with Montreal

housing in Singapore, creative play for young children, ghosts, God, and going on vacation.

Books Alive

Sun 7:30-8:00 p.m., 18 Jul-19 Sep 1954

A discussion program with moderator Arthur Phelps, produced by Cliff Solway.

Bowling

Boxing

British Empire and Commonwealth Games

Daily 11:00-12:00 noon,(Eastern Daylight Time) 30 Jul-7 Aug 1954

The CBC mustered all its forces to cover the Fifth Commonwealth Games, held in Vancouver in summer 1954. Both radio and television provided information, and the CBC International Service broadcast shortwave reports to the Commonwealth. The Games were opened by Viscount Alexander of Tunis, the former Governor-General of Canada, and the Duke of Edinburgh, representing the Queen, presided over the closing ceremonies. The most anxiously anticipated event was the one mile run, in which Roger Bannister of the U.K. and the Australian John Landy were scheduled to compete. Both had broken the four minute mile earlier in the year.

For television, the CBC leased a coaxial cable and microwave network in order to carry the signal from Vancouver to Seattle, Buffalo, and Toronto for the first

footage was used in the regular coverage for the network as well as for CBC News Magazine and other CBC programs.

community. Censorship, dramatized and discussed, was the subject of the concluding program.

Butternut Square

Mon-Fri 11:30-11:50 a.m., 19 Oct 1964-