



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Playbill for Hello, Dolly!

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 03:23:37

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Who's Who in the Cast

CAB CALLOWAY (Vandergelder) indisputably one of the greats of Twentieth Century show business, was the model George Gershwin used to create the character of Sportin' Life for Porgy and Bess. But other commitments kept Mr. Calloway out of the original production, and it wasn't until the 1952 revival of the American classic -- which ran for two years -- that Broadway heard "It Ain't Necessarily So" performed in the inimitable Calloway manner, as the author had intended. Born in Rochester, New York, on Christmas night, 1907, Cab (short for Cabell) Calloway received most of his education in Baltimore, where the family moved when he was still a toddler. The bright lights of the entertainment world lured him from the start, but, to please his father, he attended Crane Law School in Chicago. Making ends meet was a problem,

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however, and he was soon moonlighting at a South Side nightclub, emceeing at first, then, by turns, writing, singing and producing. The legal tomes were shelved when he was induced to take over the baton of a Chicago band known as The Alabamians. The success of this venture brought the group to New York, where Mr. Calloway accepted a starring role in his first Broadway show, Connie's Hot Chocolates. On the strength of his nightly high-stepping show-stopping, he was signed to headline Harlem's Cotton Club -- and a legend in New York nightlife began. Over the years Hollywood has often tapped his talents, beginning with a feature role in the first of "The Big Broadcast" series, and including such films as The Singing Kid, with Al Jolson, Stormy Weather, St. Louis Blues and, more recently, The Cincinnati Kid. To date he has cavorted in more than 250 television shows. He is also one of the all-time

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[[start page]] favorites of supper club audiences in Europe, as well as the United States. The title, "King of Hi-De-Ho," was bestowed on Mr. Calloway as the result of a happy accident. Facing his first major audience, he fumbled the lyrics, but recovered by singing out, loud and clear, the first thing that came to mind -- HI-DE-HO! The delighted assemblage took up the chant, and has been singing along ever since.

EMILY YANCY (Irene Molloy) a New Yorker, is a former anatomical research specialist at New York University Medical Center who was persuaded by the boys back at the lab to enter a beauty contest. She won, and discerning talent agents haven't let her touch a test tube since. During a singing tour of Europe, in which she appeared at top supper clubs, including Bricktops' in Rome, she was spotted in one of them by a Hollywood scout, which led to some small film roles. She has recently completed filming a featured part in the forthcoming George Seaton production What's So Bad About Feeling Good?. Miss Yancy has had important parts in a number of summer stock musicals, among them the Diahann Carroll role in No Strings. She has also done some television and utilized her natural beauty as a top model.

JACK CROWDER (Cornelius Hackl) has starred off-Broadway in The Fantasticks, the musical that holds the all-time long run record in New York. Prior to that, he was for a long time engaged in the Hollywood television mills, performing in such top-rated shows as Run For Your Life, Kraft Suspense Theatre and Perry Mason, to list a few. Born in Miami, Florida, Mr. Crowder was reared in Connecticut and California and educated at the Universities of Redlands and Southern California. He has studied with such eminent theatre people as Meredith Willson, Howard Hull, Jerry Eskow, Corey Allen and Robert Ellenstein, and has appeared in stock with such stars as Cyril Ritchard, Joel Gray, Jose Ferrer, Juliet Prowse and Gretchen Wyler. He played Smokey in Damn Yankees, The Negro in The Roar of the Greasepaint (with the Messrs. Ritchard and Grey on the West Coast), Lt. Able in No Time For Sergeants, Persil Le Noire in Irma La Douce and Johannes in the West Coast production of The Zulu and the Zayda. He was also featured some seasons back in the off-Broadway production, Fly Blackbird. Currently, he is featured regularly on the ABC-TV serial, One Life to Live.

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[[advertisement]]
[[image of a bottle on a chair, with a boating hat and
flags]]
a man's after shave, after bath cologne
Dana
MADE, BOTTLED, SEALED IN FRANCE

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