

## October 21, 2019

**Panic** - Episode Title: **Hear No Evil**. Aired Sunday evening at 7:30PM, April 13, 1958 on NBC. This series aired from March 1957 to September 1958.

**Mercedes McCambridge** - She won an Academy Award as Best Supporting Actress in *All The King's Men* (1949). During filming of *Johnny Guitar* (1954) she and Joan Crawford' fought both on and off the set. One night, in a drunken rage, Crawford scattered the costumes worn by McCambridge along an Arizona highway. Cast and crew had to collect the outfits. McCambridge was quoted as saying, "She was a mean, tipsy, powerful, rotten-egg lady." She suffered from bronchitis for the most part of her life and later revealed she was able to use this to her advantage for the chilling breathing of the demon in *The Exorcist* (1973).

**Whitney Blake** - be best known for playing the pretty mom ("Mrs. B." - Dorothy Baxter) in the sitcom *Hazel* starring Shirley Booth from 1961 to 1965. Real-life mother of actress Meredith Baxter, with whom she co-starred in the TV-movie *The Stranger Who Looks Like Me* (1974). She also starred in the very first episode of *Perry Mason* (1957) with Gloria Henry, another TV mom from *Dennis The Menace*.

**Dick Elliott** - With close to 400 credits in film and television, he is best remembered to television audiences as Mayor Pike on *The Andy Griffith Show*.

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**Alfred Hitchcock Presents** - Episode Title: **The Crooked Road** - Aired Sunday evening at 9:30PM, October 26, 1958 on CBS. This episode was part of the fourth season of this series.

Alfred Hitchcock Presents was created, hosted and produced by Alfred Hitchcock. The program aired on CBS and NBC between 1955 and 1965. Hitchcock directed 17 of the 267 filmed episodes of Alfred Hitchcock Presents — four of them during the first season and one or two per season thereafter. The series was originally 25 minutes per episode, but it was expanded to 50 minutes in 1962 and retitled The Alfred Hitchcock Hour.

**Theme Song** - Charles Gounod's Funeral March Of A Marionette was composed in 1872. This music has been recorded many times. One of the earliest recordings was by John Philip Sousa's band in 1903. The American horror radio program *The Witch's Tale*, which originally aired from 1931 to 1938, utilized this music in at least one episode titled, "The Gypsy's Hand", which aired on April 14, 1932. Alfred Hitchcock had first heard this music in the 1927 silent film *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*. In 1955, when choosing the theme music for his television series Alfred Hitchcock Presents, he remembered the effect that "Funeral March Of A Marionette" had on him. This music can also be heard in Laurel & Hardy's silent short comedy, *Habeas Corpus* from 1928, Harold Lloyd's first sound film, *Welcome Danger* (1929), and *Hell's Bells* (1929), a Walt Disney Silly Symphony cartoon.

Hitchcock's intro in this episode is alluding to the game show scandals where shows such as *Twenty-One* were caught feeding answers to contestants. In August 1958, *Dotto* was caught fixing, and ratings plummeted on game shows, leading to several cancellations. Congressional hearings on this topic were held in

the summer of 1959, ultimately leading to major changes in the code of conduct.

The voice-over announcer in the Hitchcock sound proof booth segment is Paul Frees, famous for his countless number of cartoon voices including Boris Badenov. In an interview with Leonard Maltin, Tony Curtis' confirmed that the voice of his character's female alter ego (Josephine) in *Some Like It Hot* was an audio modulation of both his own voice and that of actor Paul Frees. By his own admission, Curtis had difficulty in maintaining the falsetto for an extended time.

**Patricia Breslin** - She co-starred with Jackie Cooper in the TV series, *The People's Choice* as Mandy Peoples from 1955-1958.

**Richard Kiley** - was the original Don Quixote (as well as Cervantes) in "Man of La Mancha" on Broadway. He won two Tony Awards as Best Actor (Musical): in 1959 for "Redhead" and in 1966 for his signature role, "Man of La Mancha".

**Walter Matthau** - When he inscribed himself formally to the U.S. Social Security in 1937, he included "Foghorn" as his middle name. He never changed it. He and Jack Lemmon acted together in nine movies. He once estimated his lifetime gambling losses at \$5 million.

Filmed at Republic Studios in Studio City.

Directed by **Paul Henreid** best known for his roles in *Casablanca* and *Now, Voyager*. His television directorial credits include *Maverick*, *Bonanza* and *The Big Valley*. In 1964, Bette Davis, who had expressed both trust and admiration for Henreid since their first collaboration, was directed by Henreid in *Dead Ringer*.

**The Dupont Show with June Allyson** - Episode Title: **A Silent Panic** - Aired Thursday evening at 10:30PM, December 22, 1960 on CBS.

This episode was filmed at Republic Studios in Studio City.

**June Allyson** - In 1945, Harvard Lampoon voted her worst actress of the year. That year's worst actor was her regular co-star Van Johnson. She also witnessed Joan Crawford's cruel treatment of her daughter Christina Crawford and claims the book and film adaptation *Mommie Dearest* (1981) are honest accounts of how Joan treated her children.

**Directed by Arthur Hiller** - was president of the Director's Guild of America (DGA) from 1989-1993. President of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (1993-1997). Academy Award nomination for best director of *Love Story* (1970). Won Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Academy Award in 2002.

**Arthur "Harpo" Marx** - Harpo (who was 72 years old when *A Silent Panic* aired) officially became a mime after a theater critic noted in 1914 that Harpo was brilliant until his character spoke. From then on, Harpo never spoke while in character on stage or in films. When he taught himself to play the harp, he later learned that he taught himself to play it the wrong way. However, when he became famous and wealthy, he would occasionally take harp lessons from various harpists and music teachers in both New York City and Los Angeles to better increase his skill. According to Groucho, if you want to hear Harpo speak, just be near him when he misses a putt on the golf course.

**Bert Freed** (Lieutenant) - First actor to play the role of Lt. Columbo on Sunday night at 9:00PM, July 31, 1960, in an episode of The Chevy Mystery Show titled Enough Rope, eight years before Peter Falk became famous in the part.

**Ernest Truex** (Daniel) - He appeared as a regular on the Mister Peepers (1952) series, as a grandfather in Jamie (1953), a boss in The Ann Sothern Show (1958), and as "Pop" in the December Bride (1954) spin-off Pete and Gladys (1960).

**John Banner** (Mr. Popper) - is best remembered as Sergeant Schultz in Hogan's Heroes from 1965 to 1971.

**Henry Beckman** (Policeman) - is best known to audiences as the unstable and volcanic George Anderson, the abusive husband of Julie (Kasey Rogers) and daughter Betty Anderson (Barbara Parkins) in the TV's, *Peyton Place*.

**Note:** Harpo's son Bill makes his acting debut in this episode.

**Lew Gallo** (Police Station plain clothes officer) - in addition to acting, he produced such television programs as *Love American Style*, *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman* and *The New Mike Hammer*.

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## References

The Alfred Hitchcock Wiki

Internet Movie Database

Wikipedia

