

FOR RELEASE

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New Exhibit, “The Industry in Our Backyard: Television Production in Los Angeles 1940s-1980s” to Showcase 40 Years of Television Production in L.A.

**On View at Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St., Downtown L.A.
January 18 through July 15, 2018**



From left, Clint Eastwood and Paul Brinegar of Rawhide, Tina Louise of Gilligan's Island, and Robert Conrad with Ross Martin of The Wild, Wild West help promote the CBS prime time lineup for 1965. (Valley Times)

“The Industry in Our Backyard: Television Production in Los Angeles 1940s-1980s,” a new exhibit culled from the Los Angeles Public Library’s expansive photo collections will showcase four decades of local television production. The exhibit will be on display from Jan. 18 through July 15, 2018 in the History Department of Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St., downtown Los Angeles.

From “*I Love Lucy*” to “*ALF*” and covering everything from camera equipment, fledgling local stations and portraits of popular TV stars on set, the exhibit’s 31 images are a peek at the TV industry which blossomed in Los Angeles and grew to captivate millions nationwide. Additionally, the exhibit will be accompanied by a free series of
(more)

Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

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Saturday programs led by TV industry experts at Central Library, and a companion catalog with over 120 images including those in the exhibit will be available at the Library Store.

“Since KTLA first went on the air in 1947, TV production in Los Angeles became as ubiquitous as palm trees,” said Wendy Horowitz, photo collection librarian and exhibit curator. “Unlike the closed sets of feature films, anybody with a ticket could attend tapings and live broadcasts, and when new equipment made remote telecasts possible, it seemed local TV production was everywhere.”

Selected from the library’s *Herald Examiner* and *Valley Times* newspapers photo collections, Horowitz said many of the images in the exhibit have not been seen since first appearing in those newspapers, in some cases 60 years ago. The pictures were taken by newspaper photographers, who were often given exclusive access to the studios, back lots and TV stations’ to help promote programs.”

Horowitz also discovered a number of surprises amongst the nostalgic photos such as guest star Andy Warhol posing on “*The Love Boat*,” and the now-comical depiction of what people of the future might look like on the set of 1950’s “*Space Patrol*.”

“For those who grew up in Los Angeles, the familiar faces of Connie Chung and Jerry Dunphy will bring back warm memories, and coverage of network promotions, including a CBS Fall Preview event featuring Tina Louise dressed as Ginger of ‘*Gilligan’s Island*’ with Clint Eastwood of ‘*Rawhide*,’ are especially intriguing,” she said. “It’s all here, from game shows and sitcoms, to low-budget regional programming and behind-the-scenes glimpses at the studio crews at work.”

The exhibit is free and open to the public during library hours.

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, more than 6 million books, and state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org, provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

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EXHIBIT PROGRAM SCHEDULE

“The Industry in Our Backyard: Television Production in Los Angeles 1940s-1980s”

2 p.m., Saturday, February 10, 2018

The Golden Age of Los Angeles Television

Mitch Waldow, News Archive Manager, KTTV/KCOP and Fox 11 Television, will discuss the history of local Los Angeles television news, covering the early days of live remote broadcasts, changes in technology, the popularity of local anchors, personal anecdotes and TV footage selected from the KTTV/KCOP archive. He is joined by Los Angeles historian and author of the book “Los Angeles Television” **Joel Tator**, who will share selections from his vast collection of local L.A. TV advertisements, kinescopes and video footage, still photos, and ephemera. Together they recount the evolution of a new medium that took shape in Los Angeles and brought the world iconic characters, trusted names and unforgettable events.

2 p.m., Saturday, March 10, 2018

Television Academy’s “The Interviews,” Jenni Matz & Adrienne Faillace, producers

A screening of clips will be shown from “*The Interviews: An Oral History of Television*,” a program from the Television Academy Foundation. The clips are from a collection of more than 20 years of interviews with television professionals. Some of the highlights include the craft of working in Los Angeles-produced TV programming (1950s-80s), the migration of the television production hub from NY to LA, studio logistics and specifics (Desilu, Warner Bros.), the early days of KTLA, tales from TV shows shot in/around Los Angeles (Star Trek, Batman, etc.), and stories of the star power concentrated on the studio back lots and commissaries.

2 p.m., Saturday, May 12, 2018

LGBTQs and Television: From the ‘50s to Now

GALECA: The Society of LGBTQ Entertainment Journalists

Informal discussion of the surprising history of LGBTQ representation on TV, and the shows that shaped, shocked and inspired the speakers. Vintage clips from rarely-seen programs will be presented.

2 p.m., Saturday, June 9, 2018

UCLA Film & Television Archive – Dan Einstein and Mark Quigley

Representatives of the UCLA Film & Television Archive present an overview of the Archive as a research resource as well as screen clips from recently preserved episodes of the locally-produced human interest series, *On The Go* (KNXT, 1959–60). *Footage courtesy of L.A. Dept. of Recreation and Parks.*

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