

---

Subject: Henry Brandon and Zarz

Posted by [Frank J. Lhota](#) on Sat, 24 Jun 2017 01:28:11 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I have been a long time fan of Laurel and Hardy, the slapstick comedy team from the 1920's through the 40's. Several of the original MST3K crew were also Laurel and Hardy fans; Keyin Murphy raves about them in his book, "A Year at the Movies". Among other things, they launched the career of one of the stars of a season 11 movie.

Henry Brandon (<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0104770>) was one of Hollywood's most prolific heavy, playing the bad guy in science fiction, westerns, comedies, and TV shows. He got his start playing the villainous Barnaby in the Laurel and Hardy film, "Babes in Toyland" (1934). He was a frequent guest at the L&H international conventions. Henry Brandon's last role was Zarz in "Wizards of the Lost Kingdom II". At the last Laurel and Hardy convention he attended, he warned his fans to NOT see the film, that it was terrible.

Given his low opinion of the film, it is a shame that Henry did not live to see this film get riffed. He probably would have loved it.

--

"All things extant in this world,  
Gods of Heaven, gods of Earth,  
Let everything be as it should be;  
Thus shall it be!"

- Magical chant from "Magical Shopping Arcade Abenobashi"

"Drizzle, Drazzle, Drozzle, Drome,  
Time for this one to come home!"

- Mr. Wizard from "Tooter Turtle"

---

---

Subject: Re: Henry Brandon and Zarz

Posted by [Doug Elrod](#) on Mon, 26 Jun 2017 16:39:18 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Friday, June 23, 2017 at 9:28:35 PM UTC-4, Frank J. Lhota wrote:

> I have been a long time fan of Laurel and Hardy, the slapstick comedy  
> team from the 1920's through the 40's. Several of the original MST3K  
> crew were also Laurel and Hardy fans; Keyin Murphy raves about them in  
> his book, "A Year at the Movies". Among other things, they launched the  
> career of one of the stars of a season 11 movie.

I wonder if there are some early Laurel and/or Hardy films that could use some MSTing. Rumor has it that Hardy played a woman in at least one of these....

- > Henry Brandon (<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0104770>) was one of
- > Hollywood's most prolific heavy, playing the bad guy in science fiction,
- > westerns, comedies, and TV shows. He got his start playing the
- > villainous Barnaby in the Laurel and Hardy film, "Babes in Toyland"
- > (1934). He was a frequent guest at the L&H international conventions.
- > Henry Brandon's last role was Zarz in "Wizards of the Lost Kingdom II".
- > At the last Laurel and Hardy convention he attended, he warned his fans
- > to NOT see the film, that it was terrible.

Clearly MST3K's task is not done, until all such films have been "redeemed"!

- > Given his low opinion of the film, it is a shame that Henry did not live
- > to see this film get riffed. He probably would have loved it.

Thanks for the info. After people see WotLKII, give a toast in his honor!

-Doug Elrod ([dre1@cornell.edu](mailto:dre1@cornell.edu))  
Zarz just lacks "do" of being ZARDOZ! :-)

---

---

Subject: Re: Henry Brandon and Zarz  
Posted by [Frank J. Lhota](#) on Tue, 27 Jun 2017 11:26:51 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On 6/26/2017 12:39 PM, Doug Elrod wrote:

- > I wonder if there are some early Laurel and/or Hardy films that could use some MSTing. Rumor has it that Hardy played a woman in at least one of these....

You may be thinking of "Twice Two" (1933), where Hardy plays Laurel's wife, and Laurel plays Hardy's wife. They do a lot of split screen effects in that film.

Joel has noted that comedies are hard to riff. When they MST'd "Catalina Caper" (1967), they came up with lots of funny stuff about the creepy girl romance, but they struggled to come up with anything for the failed attempts at comedy relief - and that was with slapstick not done nearly as well as what Laurel and Hardy did.

- > Clearly MST3K's task is not done, until all such films have been "redeemed"!

Good point, undoubtedly there are many other actors who would like to see a turkey they starred in get the riffed.

- > Thanks for the info. After people see WotLKII, give a toast in his honor!

Agreed wholeheartedly!

- > -Doug Elrod ([dre1@cornell.edu](mailto:dre1@cornell.edu))

> Zarz just lacks "do" of being ZARDOZ! :-)

>

--

"All things extant in this world,  
Gods of Heaven, gods of Earth,  
Let everything be as it should be;  
Thus shall it be!"

- Magical chant from "Magical Shopping Arcade Abenobashi"

"Drizzle, Drazzle, Drozzle, Drome,  
Time for this one to come home!"

- Mr. Wizard from "Tooter Turtle"

---