

ACCELERATED REVIEW PROCESS - E

Office of the City Engineer

Los Angeles California

To the Honorable Council

Of the City of Los Angeles

JAN 14 2014

Honorable Members:

C. D. No. 13

SUBJECT:

Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street - Walk of Fame Additional Name in Terrazzo Sidewalk –
JACK H. HARRIS

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. That the City Council designate the unnumbered location situated one sidewalk square northerly of and between numbered locations 71g and 71G as shown on Sheet #17 of Plan D-13788 for the Hollywood Walk of Fame for the installation of the name of Jack H. Harris at 6764 Hollywood Boulevard.
- B. Inform the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce of the Council's action on this matter.
- C. That this report be adopted prior to the date of the ceremony on February 4, 2014.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

No General Fund Impact. All cost paid by permittee.

TRANSMITTALS:


- 1. Unnumbered communication dated January 3, 2014, from the Hollywood Historic Trust of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, biographical information and excerpts from the minutes of the Chamber's meeting with recommendations.

DISCUSSION:

The Walk of Fame Committee of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has submitted a request for insertion into the Hollywood Walk of Fame the name of Jack H. Harris. The ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

The communicant's request is in accordance with City Council action of October 18, 1978, under Council File No. 78-3949. Following the Council's action of approval, and upon proper application and payment of the required fee, an installation permit can be secured at 201 N. Figueroa Street, 3rd Floor, Counter 23.

Respectfully submitted,


for Lemuel M. Paco, P.E.
Central District Engineer
Bureau of Engineering

pkt:wof.02
(213) 482-7030

cc: Construction Services Center, Counter 23
Bureau of Street Services
Administration

STAR TO FACE WEST

HOLLYWOOD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

January 3, 2014

Mr. Gary L. Moore
Public Works Engineering
Att: Lemuel Paco
201 N. Figueroa, 3rd Floor, M.S. 503
Los Angeles, CA 90014

Dear Mr. Moore:

The Walk of Fame Committee of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has approved the below listed name for insertion into the Hollywood Walk of Fame:

JACK H. HARRIS-(Category -MOTION PICTURES) Requested star location to be 6764 Hollywood Boulevard south side of the street in front of The Guinness Museum of World Records. The star for **JACK H. HARRIS** will be placed in the second row next to the original row closest to the property. The stars situated in the original row where star is situated are **DENNIS MUREN (71g)** to the East and **RAY BOLGER (71g)** to the West. According to sheet # 17 plan 13788, **JACK H. HARRIS'S** star is next to the star of **RICK BAKER (East)** and a blank square (West and have no designated numbers) in the second row. The dedication ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

Thank you for your cooperation in this request. I look forward to a response from your office soon.

The following materials are enclosed: **JACK H. HARRIS'** bio, and the Board of Director's Minutes.

Sincerely,



Ana Martinez
Vice President, Media Relations, Producer-Walk of Fame

cc:

Mayor Garcetti
Councilman O'Farrell
William Ayala
Sgt. Lamont Jerrett

Leron Gubler
SEM
Top End Const.
Carmine Goglia

Darin Cohen
Hannibal Harris
Steven Whidden
Judith Harris



Biography of Jack H. Harris

Jack Henry Harris was born in Philadelphia on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1918. A first generation American born to immigrants, Sara Bessie Liebowitz of Bucharest Romania, and Benny Ostravsky (whose name was changed to Harris at Ellis Island), a refugee from the pogroms of Warsaw, then part of Russia. Benny's job as a movie theater projectionist may have first ignited young Jack's love of films, but both parents imbued their son with a strong work ethic that would help him not only survive but thrive in the frenetically changing world of Hollywood.

Harris grew up to become a uniquely successful producer-distributor in the film industry and has been involved in nearly every phase of show business for over 80 years.

Young Jack performed professionally as a child entertainer in the vaudeville theaters along the Eastern seaboard dancing the adagio with his younger sister Clair. By the time he was nine, he appeared in two silent feature films, capturing hearts as a wide-eyed street urchin grabbing for coins in post World War I Moscow, followed by a performance in *ABIE'S IRISH BRIDE*. This early brush with the entertainment business created a burning desire in Harris that was nourished throughout his teen years as he steadily strived towards his goal: motion picture production.

As a young boy, Harris discovered a gift of art that complemented his love of movie stars, and he found himself creating caricatures of the famous big screen figures who came through town to perform. These included Mary Pickford, Eddie Cantor, George Burns and Gracie Allen, and even a future U.S. President, the cigar-chomping FDR.

Upon graduation from high school, Harris became an usher for a theater circuit, where he earned \$10 per week. Within one year, at the tender age of 18, he had been promoted to the position of theater manager. In two years' time, he managed three theaters and his innate showmanship resulted in packed houses, drawing in young viewers who piled in for a bonus event all his own, *Uncle Jack's Kiddie Show*. Within five years, he presided over 16 theaters and won a national exploitation contest that included a trip to Hollywood with an onset visit to *Little Nellie Kelly*, starring Judy Garland.

Harris took a detour from the Hollywood scene to answer his country's call by enlisting in the U.S. army as a private. After 4 1/2 years of dedicated service, he could point to a distinguished military record, eventually becoming an officer in Army Intelligence and spending two years in Washington.

After returning home to Philadelphia, Harris spent the next five years working as a publicity and sales representative for a variety of studios. In 1953, he opened his own sub-distribution office in Philadelphia. A Pittsburgh branch was opened a year later and, in 1955, another branch was added in Washington, D.C.

The year 1954 marked a pivotal turning point for Harris and his career. It was at this time that he acquired the rights to nationally distribute a feature film from the Boy Scouts of America entitled *JAMBOREE*. To maximize distribution in the United States, Harris and Boy Scout executive, Irvine H. Milgate, personally oversaw the film's distribution by traveling together throughout the U.S.--logging over 50,000 miles by plane. During the long hours spent traveling, the two discussed the ingredients necessary for box office success--and in 1958, these discussions resulted in the eventual production of *THE BLOB*, a Paramount release which set box office records all over the world. It was in *THE BLOB* that Harris' discovery, Steve McQueen, was first brought to the attention of the major studios.

In 1959, Harris produced *4-D MAN*, introducing stars Robert Lansing, Lee Meriweather and Patty Duke to audiences in widescreen color.

In 1960, Jack H. Harris produced the Cinemascope color adventure-thriller, *DINOSAURUS*, a Universal-International release from his original story.

Harris started an international distribution company in 1961. Its premiere release was *PARADISIO*,

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the first nude movie in 3-D, which became an outstanding box office smash.

Building on his initial successes, he added about ten titles per year to his release schedule. And Jack's "knack" for discovering new talent both in front of and behind the cameras continued. Among the films and his notable discoveries are: THE OLDEST PROFESSION, starring Raquel Welch; Claude Chabrol's award-winning LES BICHES, his production of EQUINOX, the occult supernatural science-fiction epic with special effects by Dennis Muren, who went on to win 8 Sci-Fi Academy Awards.

He pushed the envelope further by distributing the x-rated landmark picture, WITHOUT A STITCH, starring Anne Grete and directed by Anneliese Meinichi (award winner for SEVENTEEN).

Displaying his usual visionary acumen, Harris also completed the Ivan Reitman-directed film, MY SECRET LIFE, taken from the erotic best-seller; two Jack Nicholson-starring westerns, THE SHOOTING and RIDE IN THE WHIRLWIND, and the science-fiction thriller, ASTRO ZOMBIES. Harris and his son Anthony produced BEWARE! THE BLOB (SON OF BLOB) directed by Larry Hagman and starring Robert Walker Jr., Godfrey Cambridge, Carol Lynley and Shelley Berman. This mighty sequel to Jack H. Harris' first production went into worldwide release.

Additional films included on the Harris release schedule: SCHLOCK--a sidesplitting monster comedy directed by a youthful John Landis; SEASON OF THE WITCH-- directed by horror-meister George Romero; BONE--starring Yaphet Kotto and Jeannie Berlin; and TEENAGER--starring Mercedes McCambridge.

In 1974, Harris' science-fi spectacular DARK STAR, directed by John Carpenter, was completed--earning international recognition. Two years later, APE starring Joanna Kerns, was released.

The 1978 production of EYES OF LAURA MARS, a haunting tale of a woman's extra-sensory perception starring Faye Dunaway and Tommy Lee Jones, was produced by Harris in connection with Columbia Pictures. And in a tribute to the success of the original, a 1987 big budget remake of THE BLOB was released by Tri-Star, with Harris as producer. STAR SLAMMER, a 1990 sci-fi production, became yet another vehicle in Harris' shining career.

Harris is still going strong today in both production and distribution, always in step with the latest innovations and trends. In 1991, Harris and his writer/producer wife, Judith Parker Harris, teamed on the production of BLOBERMOUTH. This zany comedy utilizes the actual 1958 BLOB film, enhanced by added special effects, music and dubbed with all-new dialog by the famed improv group L.A. Connection. Since the BLOB speaks in this one, the ravenous red menace sports a hilarious animated mouth that cracks jokes when it's not devouring the townfolk.

Several projects are currently in development for Harris and his wife. James Wan is set to direct yet another remake of the ever popular classic THE BLOB for the production team of Brian Witten and Richard Saperstein, in collaboration with Jack H. Harris and Judith Parker Harris.

New young producers, directors and screenwriters are continually clamoring to do remakes of DINOSAURUS, 4-D MAN and other films in the Harris Library. Original productions are also in discussion, including a possible stage musical of THE BLOB--book and musical score is currently being prepped by Clare Higgins. There's always something fresh to look forward to from the creative mind of Jack H. Harris.

Produced Films

THE BLOB

TEENAGER

MY SON THE VAMPIRE

GATE OF FLESH

LES BICHES

4-D MAN

MASTER OF HORROR

PLAYMATES

WITHOUT A STITCH

APE

DONOSAURUS

HONKY

BONE

SCHLOCK

EYES OF LAURA MARS



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EQUINOX

MY SECRET LIFE

HOT CHILD

BLOBERMOUTH

HOUSE OF MISSING GIRLS

UNKISSED BRIDE THE OLDEST PROFESSION

BEWARE! THE BLOB

DARK STAR

ASTRO ZOMBIES

STAR SLAMER

SON OF BLOB

THE BLOB II

SIXTEEN

PARADISIO

Jack H. Harris is something of a novelty--with a uniquely thorough entertainment background and a knowledgeable approach to the future, he is a resolute craftsman-businessman who can boast the experience of a veteran and the inspired vision of a wunderkind.

Hollywood Chamber of Commerce
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

MINUTES

Attending: Heather Cochran, Chair; Barton; Berberi, Assil, Butler, Campbell, Chong, Conti, Gallogly, Gonzales, Folb, Gargano, Goodwin, D. Green, H. Green, Kalantari, Koretz, Logan, Marlis, Mihalka, Sarian, See, Sundher, Zarrinnam.

Honorary Directors present: Arslanian, Cabral-Ebert, Diehl, Farrar, Hines, Morrison, Shelton, Smith.

Staff Present: Gubler, Kiecker, Shahenian

Board Members absent: Abou-Daoud, Dadigan, Druyen, Hart, Keyser, Mann, Massie, Moe, Rheinstein, Saavedra, Savage, Stephan, Taglyan.

I) Call to Order

Chair Heather Cochran called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

V) Walk of Fame Committee Report

D. Green announced the 2014 Walk of Fame honoree recommendation submitted by the Walk of Fame Committee:

MOTION PICTURES: Orlando Bloom, Ray Dolby, Sally Field, Jack H. Harris, Jessica Lange, Matthew McConaughey, Liam Neeson, Paul Mazursky, and Tom Sherak

TELEVISION: Dabney Coleman, Kaley Cuoco, Claire Danes, Giancarlo Esposito, Deidre Hall, Cheryl Hines, Don Mischer, Tavis Smiley and Phil Hartman (posthumous)

RECORDING: Holland Dozier Holland, Jeff Lynne, Mana, Ray Parker Jr., Katy Perry, Rick Springfield and Tupac Amaru Shakur (posthumous)

RADIO: Renan Almendarez Coello (El Cucuy)

Motion by Stephan, seconded by Zarrinnam to approve the Walk of Fame committee selections for 2014.

Motion carried.