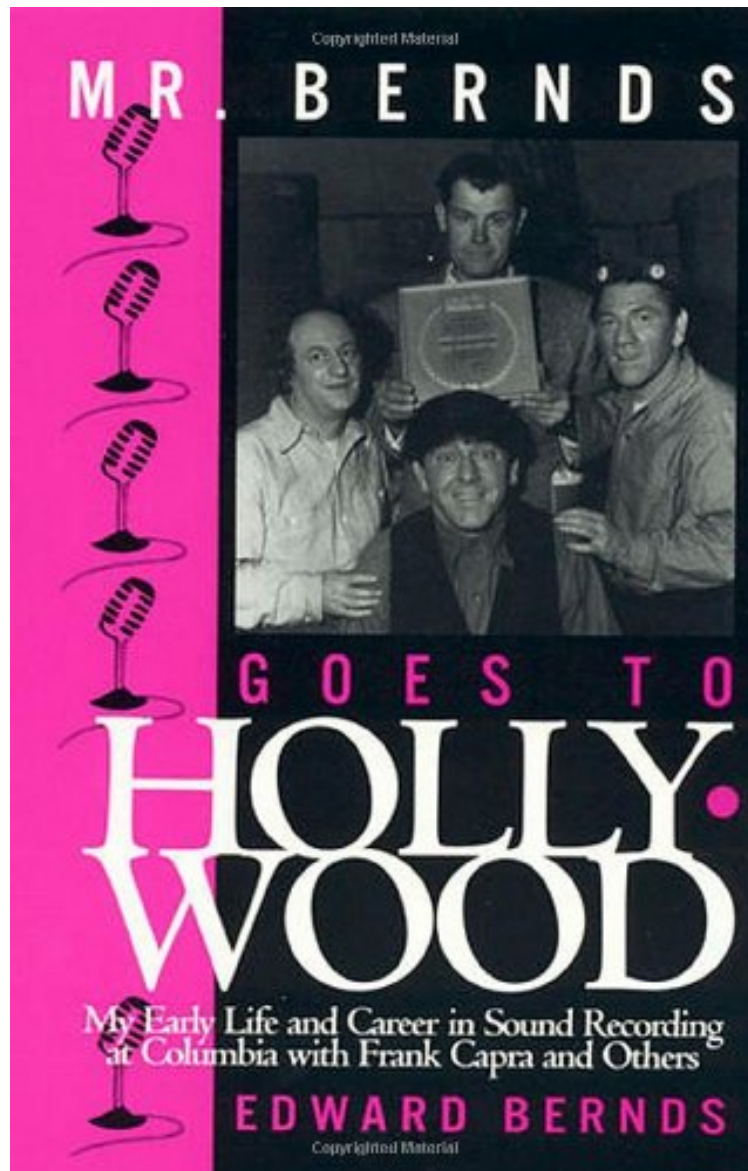


[E-BOOK] Mr. Bernds Goes to Hollywood

## Mr. Bernds Goes to Hollywood

*Edward Bernds*

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#3640637 in Books 1999-04-29 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.90 x .99 x 5.741, 1.15 #File Name: 0810836025352 pages | File size: 40.Mb

**Edward Bernds : Mr. Bernds Goes to Hollywood** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mr. Bernds Goes to Hollywood:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Like listening to a friend tell you about his life! By Stephen Zubko A marvellous book, so well written that it glides by, tempting you to forget its excellence. I couldn't even feel disappointed that it wasn't mostly about the Three Stooges, since the author has a knack of interesting the reader in

whatever he's telling about. A pity that Mr. Berndts didn't venture beyond the short story into the feature-length script--and further yet, into book-length fiction and/or non-fiction. It almost seems like he didn't realize that "he could write a sentence with the best of them." At the very least, his short stories should be collected and reprinted. For me, this is one of the very few books which somehow expands beyond the dimensions of its generous narrative, until you find yourself sharing an appealing, fascinating world. (I wonder if the author's unobtrusive, seemingly boundless good will has anything to do with this; since I can compare the feelings of sadness and regret on having to leave the author's world only with the experience of reaching the last page of *The Pickwick Papers*.) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting portrait of Hollywood in the early-talkie years  
By Scott MacGillivray  
The late writer-director Edward Berndts has become a familiar name to movie comedy fans, through his association with *The Three Stooges*, *The Bowery Boys*, the *Blondie* series, and a host of other comedy stars. But Mr. Berndts made his reputation as a recording engineer during the early-talkie years, and was the number-one sound man at Columbia Pictures until he took on more creative duties. This book chronicles Berndts's early years, from his first radio jobs through his successful association with director Frank Capra. Berndts was a stickler for accuracy, and drew upon his old diaries to confirm his excellent memory for facts and faces. He was just as careful to spell things out for the reader, explaining a technical process or a business practice to amplify the point he was making. Berndts's attention to detail makes for good, solid reading. This writer was disappointed that the book stops when the author stopped working as a soundman. But it's understandable because Berndts, in his thoroughness, would have written a mammoth volume if his entire career were to be discussed. Joseph McBride recognizes the "missing" material by appending a more general interview with Berndts, conducted by McBride and Leonard Maltin. Film buffs and historians will enjoy "Mr. Berndts." For those who want Berndts's observations and recollections of his *Three Stooges* years, read "The Columbia Comedy Shorts" by Ted Okuda and Edward Watz. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Wonderful Story of Early Hollywood  
By A Customer  
Have you ever dreamed you could make it big in Hollywood? Countless dreams have been shattered in this town, but one young man made it, and this is his story. Rarely will one encounter a more modest telling of a life's story. Yet Ed's tale rings so true and so right that you can't help but be drawn in. From making a crystal radio set as a teen, to snaring the top sound position with Frank Capra, Mr. Berndts entertains, informs, and delights us in the telling. One of the reasons why this book is so fresh is that its author works not just from memory, but from detailed diaries. The tale of his trip west to Hollywood in a broken down jalopy fairly crackles. Genuinely good story telling accents this lively account of the early talkie era. Recommended to anyone who would enjoy a stroll through the inside of Hollywood, spoken by a real movie sound pioneer.

Edward Berndts came to Hollywood in 1928 to help United Artists make the transition to sound. He worked with some of the most notable directors in Hollywood including Frank Capra, Leo McCarey, and Howard Hawks. Though Berndts loved sound work, he had higher aspirations, and hoped to become a writer and director. His first breakthrough came during the mid-1940s on Columbia shorts starring the *Three Stooges*. Berndts worked with Moe, Larry, Curly, Shemp, and company for over twenty years as the *Stooges'* favorite director. A second breakthrough came when he wrote and directed feature length films, among them the science fiction classics: *World Without End*, *Return of the Fly*, *Spacemaster X7*, and *Zsa-zsa Gabor's Queen of Outer Space*. Edward Berndts witnessed all of the profound changes that Hollywood underwent from the advent of sound to the start of the *Easy Rider* era. Fortunately for students and fans of film, he tells his story in this fascinating and vivid account of his life in Hollywood.

I love the detail...it makes me feel as if I'm there, watching it happen, and that's an exciting feeling. (Leonard Maltin) Berndts pictures of major figures are insightful and will be quoted, but just as important are his thumbnail sketches of crew members... you get a good idea what Hollywood was like, both in and out of the studios. It certainly stands on its own as a unique memoir... (Movie Collector's World) That clear-eyed quality that you have, with no padding and no waffle, gives one the most vivid idea of what it was like to be there. (Brownlow, Kevin) About the Author Edward Berndts still lives outside of Hollywood, California. He no longer makes movies, but writes about them. He has written several published articles on American film. On February 9, 1998, Berndts was honored by the National Board of with its Lifetime Achievement Award for Film Technology.