

Arthur John Huston

BIRTH: 27 Mar 1882 (Bellevue, Eaton County, Michigan, USA)

DEATH: 22 Jul 1961 (aged 79) (Orangeville, Dufferin County, Ontario, Canada)

BURIAL: Forest Lawn Cemetery, Orangeville, Dufferin County, Ontario, Canada

As a young man, Arthur J. Huston worked as an engraver until he became a full-time vaudeville-style actor and performer. He specialized in comedy and juggling. He starred in performances such as:

- Huston & Dallas - Comedy Jugglers (1905-07) (Arthur Huston and Mae Dallas)
- Stanley in Africa (1908-1909)
- Roosevelt in Africa (1908-15)
- A Night in the Jungle (1920)
- The Bug Hunter (1921)
- Inbad the Sailor, Spectacular Fantasy of Modern Arabian Nights (a 19-minute act performed by Arthur Huston (a juggling sailor), Cinka Panna (a musician) & Al Borneman (the Sultan)).

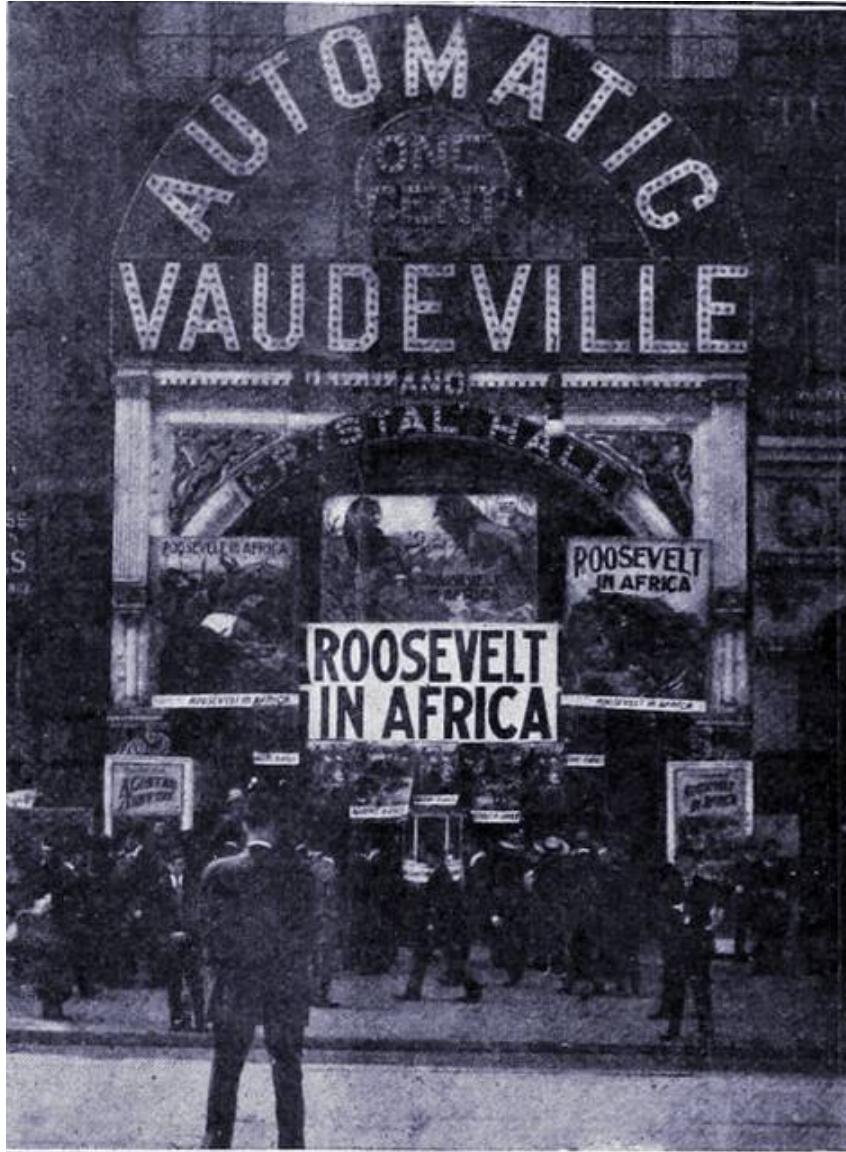
Early in his career, Arthur Huston was also a member of the "Juggling Jays" or "11 Jays"; which was a short-lived eleven-person vaudeville juggling act formed by Jean Bedini and it included Roy Arthur and Frank Le Dent.





(Arthur Roy (left), Arthur Huston (centre) and Frank Le Dent (right))

"Roosevelt in Africa" may have been Arthur Huston's most successful production. Starring in the headline act for an evening of vaudeville performances, Huston impersonated former U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt while on vacation in Africa, incidentally contributing some impressive juggling and much comedy. The performance involved three people, 10 monkeys, 15 tropical birds and an elaborate jungle setting that included a "Swearing Tent" utilized by Teddy every now and then to do some humorous out-of-view cussing.



Late in his career, Arthur Huston often toured and performed with Czinka Panna, his second wife, although they usually performed in separate acts during an evening's performance of numerous vaudeville acts. Czinka, a Hungarian, often performed under the stage names Zinka Panna or Cinka Panna (Panna was also likely a stage name). She specialized in piano, violin and cimbalom and at times used trained dogs as part of her act.

In 1902, Arthur J. Huston married May A. McDonald when they were both 20-years old. In 1903, they had a daughter, Celia Alberta Huston. May A. McDonald, using the stage name Mae Dallas, performed with Arthur as part of Huston & Dallas. May. A. McDonald died in 1907 at age 24. Arthur (a widower) married musician and performer Czinka Panna. In 1922, Arthur J. Huston (age 40) married Helen Cornelia Qua (nee Paterson) (age 37) in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Helen, a widow, was a singer and an artist and she was the daughter of notable lawyer Norman F. Paterson.

In 1930, Arthur and Helen Huston built the Orangeville Golf Course. The site of the course is in the Town of Caledon in the small hamlet of Melville just south of Orangeville, Ontario, Canada. The picturesque location for the course runs alongside the upper Credit River. Arthur and Helen built their house next to the golf course and they called the house "Riverholme".

Arthur J. Huston was the cousin of Walter Huston - the famed celebrity actor (born April 5, 1883 in Toronto, Canada). Walter Huston won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his role in "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre", directed by his son John Huston. Walter Huston and his second wife, Fanny Elmina Rose (whose stage name was Bayonne Whipple), wrote the script for Inbad the Sailor, an early hit performance for Arthur Huston, who starred in the act as a sailor with juggling skills and comedy talents.

Opening in early 1930, the Orangeville Golf Course saw some notable stars walk and play the course including the likes of Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Walter Huston and others. Arthur's house had also been host to many celebrity parties with the likes of Elizabeth Taylor & Richard Burton.

Melville has a rail line running through it which links up with the main lines from Toronto and at one time ran as far north as Owen Sound. Arthur Huston would offer Riverholme to celebrity friends of his cousin Walter, when they needed to get away from everything and spend time relaxing in the countryside. Since Melville had no train station (it had burned down), the trains from Toronto to Owen Sound would make a special courtesy stop in near Melville to drop off notable passengers and celebrities visiting Riverholme. The train line runs right through the middle of the golf course and a few steps from Arthur's house.

The Orangeville Golf Course stayed in the Arthur's hands until 1958 when it was sold to a group of local businessmen.