



*W.C. Fields Commemorative U.S. Postage Stamp Performing Arts Series, First Class, Issued January 29, 1980, W.C. Fields 100th Birthday. Ceremony at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.*

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The mission of The National Arts Club is to stimulate, foster and promote public interest in the arts and educate the American people in the fine arts. It was founded in 1898 by Charles de Kay, a literary and art critic for *The New York Times*. The Tilden Mansion at 15 Gramercy Park South, a National Historic Landmark, has been home of The National Arts Club since 1906.

[www.nationalartsclub.org](http://www.nationalartsclub.org)



THE FILM COMMITTEE OF  
THE NATIONAL ARTS CLUB  
PRESENTS



*If I can make them laugh and through that laughter make this old world seem just a little brighter, then I am satisfied. - W.C. Fields*

## *A Celebration of Comic Genius W.C. Fields*

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Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at 8:00 PM

# Program Agenda

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## *Introductions*

Gary Shapiro, Co-Chair of The National Arts Club Film Committee

Background context – Dr. Harriet Fields

*W.C. FIELDS FILM CLIPS with Panelists Discussion*

Old Fashioned Way – Juggling scene

Man on the Flying Trapeze

*Panel Discussion*

It's A Gift

Fatal Glass of Beer

The Dentist

*Panel Discussion*

The Pharmacist

You-re Telling Me

*Panel Discussion*

Six of a Kind

David Copperfield

*Panel Discussion*

Q&A

BOOK SIGNING with DICK CAVETT

Fields for President by W.C. Fields with foreword by DICK CAVETT (2016)

W.C. FIELDS is the “Icon of American Culture and Humor” (Librarian of Congress, 2000). His career spans the world’s modern entertainment heritage from the Bowery to vaudeville throughout the world on nearly every continent, back to Broadway as star on stage, silent films, talking films in Hollywood, and radio. The Timelessness of W.C. Fields’ art and humor is as relevant today as before. There is no instance in the human condition that we cannot find solace in the art of W.C. Fields, for humor is the best medicine of all.

## *Panelists Bios*

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DICK CAVETT is an American entertainment icon, conversationalist, public intellectual, and commentator of our times. He is an Emmy Award winning writer and talk show host, comedian, starting out as a writer for Jack Parr at the *Tonight Show* and Johnny Carson. The Dick Cavett Show was known for its unique and inimitable, refreshing and cerebral, insightful style. He has been known as the most sophisticated of the talk show hosts, with a witty conversational style. A devotee of W.C. Fields and much like him, Mr. Cavett has written books including Dick Cavett: Talk Show and Dick Cavett: Brief Encounters. He has also written the foreword to the re-issue of W.C. Fields own Fields for President (2016).

DR. HARRIET FIELDS, the only granddaughter of W.C. Fields, spiritual inspiration is her grandfather. She presents programs nationally and internationally on her grandfather. Dr. Fields is working on the next performance of her Off Broadway play about an actual incident that happened to her grandfather while performing on Broadway. A member of Teachers College, Columbia University Alumni Council, she is a nurse educator with expertise in Health Care Policy and humane health care reform. As a global health advocate in rural villages in Rwanda, Dr. Fields also screens her grandfather’s films at the Kwetu Film Institute in Kigali, with profound international insights into how W.C. Fields speaks to the universal human condition.

PROF. ROB KING is film professor at Columbia University with a specialization in early film and comedy, American cinema, popular culture and social history. He has written acclaimed books on Keystone Film Company and most recently Hokum (2017). In his film classes Prof. King screens W.C. Fields films, including *You’re Telling Me* and *Man on the Flying Trapeze*. Presently he is writing about W.C. Fields’ *Fatal Glass of Beer* due out later this year.