Gloria Blondell

Brian Kavanaugh

Gloria Blondell was born August 16, 1915, in New York City into a vaudeville family. She, along with her parents Levi Bluestein (stage name, Ed Blondell) and Catherine Caine, her more famous sister Joan Blondell, and her brother Edward Jr., comprised a vaudeville troupe known as the “Bouncing Blondells”. She claimed she first went on stage when she was nine months old and was described as “a trouper” by the time she was three.

Blondell’s first known Broadway appearance was in 1935 in *Three Men on a Horse.* She appeared in several movies throughout her career, co-starring with Ronald Reagan in *Accidents Will Happen* in 1938, and with Hans Conried in *The Twonky* in 1953. Other notable appearances include *Daredevil Drivers* (1938) as Lucy Mack and *White Lightning* (1953) as Ann Garfield. She also originated the role of Daisy Duck’s “normal” voice, appearing in six of Daisy’s nine speaking appearances during Disney’s classic shorts era of the 1940s.

Gloria Blondell also regularly appeared on radio, including *I Love a Mystery, The Adventures of Philip Marlowe, The Casebook of Gregory Hood, Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar, Lux Radio Theatre, Richard Diamond, Private Detective, The Great Gildersleeve*, and many more. Late in her career, she also appeared in television. Her best-known role was that of Honeybee Gillis in the 1950s sitcom, *The Life of Riley*.

She was married to film producer Albert Broccoli from July 1940 to August 1945. She married Victor Hunter the following year on September 14, 1946, and they remained married until his death on February 8, 1980.

Blondell died from cancer March 25, 1986, in Santa Monica, California. She was 70 years old.

Reference:

*Gloria Blondell*. (2022, January 3). Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gloria\_Blondell&oldid=1063513713