

Mickey Mouse in Black and White

Details

Disc 1

Insert 4

Title	Description
The Gorilla Mystery	DATE - October 1, 1930
	DIRECTOR - Burt Gillett
	SUMMARY - Beppo the Gorilla has escaped from the zoo and captures Minnie, tying her up in the attic. Mickey hunts down the kidnapper, eventually capturing the ape.
	BEHIND THE SHORTS - A gorilla was a popular nemesis for Mickey and Pluto, especially after the film debut of <i>King Kong</i> .
	UNCENSORED - Mickey hits a parrot with a book and draws a gun (granted it's just a joke pistol).
Pioneer Days	DATE - December 5, 1930
	DIRECTOR - Burt Gillett
	SUMMARY - Mickey and Minnie are attacked by Indians while traveling out West. Minnie is captured, thus Mickey comes looking for her, and is captured as well. Eventually, Minnie escapes and rescues Mickey. They scare the entire Indian tribe away by pretending to be the cavalry.
	BEHIND THE SHORTS - One of the earliest of Mickey's "costume dramas," where Mickey and his supporting cast are "actors" in roles.
	UNCENSORED - The pioneers use rifles to fend off the Indians. After a pioneer sees another being scalped, he hands an Indian his toupee and runs off. Various characters chew and spit tobacco.
The Birthday Party	PREFACE - Leonard Maltin discusses Mickey's antisocial behavior in view of today's manners and morals.
	DATE - January 7, 1931
	DIRECTOR - Burt Gillett
	SUMMARY - Minnie, Horace Horsecollar, Clarabelle Cow, and others join together for this big birthday celebration.
	BEHIND THE SHORTS - Virtually all of the early supporting characters make an appearance. The DVD presentation of this short is missing the prefaced "1931" date card that was featured on the laserdisc release.
Mickey Steps Out	DATE - July 7, 1931
	DIRECTOR - Burt Gillett
	SUMMARY - Mickey and Pluto head over to Minnie's place for some singing, dancing, and piano playing. But when an alley cat gets into Minnie's house, their whole afternoon of music is ruined.
	BEHIND THE SHORTS - One of the earliest film uses of "Sweet Georgia Brown," a theme which will be repeated in cartoons for decades to come.
	UNCENSORED - Soot from a stove leaves numerous characters in blackface. Pluto shouts "Mammy!", making this the second cartoon in which he speaks (the first was 1931's <i>The Moose Hunt</i> , not included in this collection).
Blue Rhythm	PREFACE - Leonard Maltin discusses social, racial, and ethnic stereotypes in cartoons from the 1920's and 1930's.
	DATE - August 18, 1931
	DIRECTOR - Burt Gillett
	SUMMARY - Mickey leads an orchestra playing "St. Louis Blues" in a concert hall.
	BEHIND THE SHORTS - Mickey as an orchestra leader is a theme repeated throughout the early shorts. <i>Blue Rhythm</i> is Mickey's imitation of renowned 1930's orchestra leader Ted Lewis. Pluto is given a "human" character; that of playing the trombone in Mickey's band. It was one of the few shorts where he was given an anthropomorphic role.