

Document Citation

Title	Abbott & costello meet the Mummy
Author(s)	Brog.
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1955
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Abbott & Costello meet the Mummy, Lamont, Charles, 1955

Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy (SONG)

Good Abbott & Costello comedy, team's best in some time with satisfactory biz prospects where these pix play best.

Hollywood, May 3.

Universal release of Howard Christie production. Stars Bud Abbott, Lou Costello features Marie Windsor, Michael Ansara, Peggy King. Directed by Charles Lamont. Screenplay, John Grant; story, Lee Loeb; camera, George Robinson; editor, Russell Schoengarth; music supervision, Joseph Gershenson. Previewed April 26, '55. Running time, 79 MINS.

Pete Patterson	Bud Abbott
Freddie Franklin	Lou Costello
Madame Rontru	Marie Windsor
Charlie	Michael Ansara
Josef	Dan Seymour
Semu	Richard Deacon
Dr. Zoomer	Kurt Katch
Hetsut	Richard Karlan
Iben	Mel Welles
Habid	George Khoury
Klaris	Edwin Parker
Dance Troupe	Mazzone-Abbott Dancers
Dance Troupe	Chandra Kaly Dancers
Vocalist	Peggy King

(Aspect ratio: 1.85-1)

Abbott & Costello pick up the entertainment pace in "Meet the Mummy" to make it one of their best comedies in some time. It looks like satisfactory business right down the line in those situations that have previously done well with entries from the comics.

As the title indicates, the team's funning is laid in Egypt, where the boys, stranded and short of coin, get mixed up in murder hijinks and the hunt for a long buried treasure. Producer Howard Christie and director Charles Lamont mix up laughs and chills, plus some suspense, to keep the footage rolling at a good clip for its 79 minutes. Bats, cobras, mummies that still live after thousands of years in wrappings and other dusty accoutrements of musty ruins are gimmicks seen frequently and used for scary comedy in the John Grant screenplay, based on a story by Lee Loeb. Added fillip is Peggy King doing a first class selling job on "You Came A Long Way From St. Louis" in a single sequence laid in an Egyptian nitery.

Outside of mummies and reptiles, A&C have human nemesis, all with the same aim of obtaining the treasure and bumping off everyone else. Principal among the heavies is Marie Windsor, a gal with some killer hirelings and murderous ways who forces the comics to lead the way to the loot because Costello has swallowed the medallion on which the map is engraved. X-ray makes it easy to read. Richard Deacon is another menace, playing the leader of a religious cult that wants the medallion and the living mummy who usually wears it back in the temple. Footage rolls along with several very funny A&C routines to keep the laughs coming.

Michael Ansara and Dan Seymour are the principal doers of Miss Windsor's bidding, while Eddie Parker is the mummy who still lives. Two dance troupes are spotted through the picture, the Mazzone-Abbott Dancers and Chandra Kaly and His Dancers, latter serving the mummy god of the religious cult. Technical end of the production gets in on the amusement with its contributions; such as George Robinson's lensing, the art direction, editing and musical supervision by Joseph Gershenson.

Brog.