Harpo Marx



• 1888 - 1964 (born in Manhattan, New York, USA; died in Los Angeles, California, USA)

- \bullet 2^{nd} oldest of the five Marx brothers, who were an American family comedy act
- Born Adolph Marx, changed his name to Arthur, and then was given the stage name Harpo because of his harp playing
- When Harpo was in his twenties, his mother gave him an inexpensive harp and he learned to play on his own
 - Because he was self-taught and couldn't read music, Harpo's playing is both highly creative and really unorthodox
 - Later he took lessons with well-known harp teachers, including Mildred Dilling and Henriette Renié, but his playing remained unique
 - Harpo never spoke during comedy performances (in contrast to his brothers)
- Together the Marx Brothers made 13 feature films and Harpo plays the harp in many of these

