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It's one of the things that constantly amazes me about this profession: the more you work, the more you become aware of how much there is to learn, and how much harder you have to work to learn it!

It sounds like some kind of torture, doesn't it? But whether I'm acting or singing, one thing I never resent is finding out that I need to learn something. It may mean a lot of hard work, but man, there's nothing like that feeling of satisfaction that comes with the knowledge that you've improved.

I remember when I first went into a recording studio at Columbia Studios. I thought that I had a pretty good idea of what it was all about.

After all, I'd worked in New York, on Broadway, and I was pretty sure that I was up to whatever professional standards anyone cared to name.

Boy, was I in for a surprise! When I first heard my voice being played back to me, I wanted to crawl under the carpet! I can't tell you how embarrassed I was—I felt like just saying "O.K., I won't sing on The Partridge Family album after all."

But of course, that wouldn't have been the answer. So I worked just a bit harder that I had planned to, and after a while I was able to give a better performance.

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So now, that I've got pretty much complete control of what ever I want to do, even if I wanted to try and con the "boss", I'd really only be conning myself. And that is definitely no answer at all.

I may never be perfect, but if not, I want to be as close as possible.

(2) I RESOLVE that even though I will be working hard to make my acting and singing more professional, I also will be sure that I don't lose track of the other things in life.

That almost happened before, and I really am determined to see that it doesn't happen again. And I know that this time, it will be even harder to avoid.

That's because, as you know, from now on, I'll be doing the things that I want to do. And when you're doing what you want to do, it can be kinda' hard to keep from going overboard.

But I think I've learned my lesson pretty well. From now on, I'm going to keep everything in

the right perspective.

I reckon that there's more to life than just doing the job you want. There's quite a lot to be said for just stepping back from time to time and having a look at things.

Like I said, I've made the mistake of getting too involved in my work before, and one of my plans is definitely to see that it doesn't happen again.

(3) I RESOLVE that, within the next twelve months, I'll begin working on a film. Now, this may be the hardest of my resolutions to keep, but I'm certainly going to have a go at it.

So far, I think I've worked in most of the various kinds of entertainments... except films.

So obviously, that's one of the things that I'm looking forward to at the moment. I reckon that it's not too much different from television, but I'm pretty sure that there will be some changes.

I guess, from what I've heard from friends of mine who have made movies before, that one difference is that, because the schedule is a bit more flexible, you can afford to take a bit more time to see that things come out right.

I mean, within reason, of course! I know that there have been cases of films taking almost twice as long as the schedule called for, but those are exceptions.

Still, when you're shooting a television series, you never can forget the schedule. The budget is always number one, and sometimes you have to hurry things up and settle for something that's only good, when, with a little extra effort, you could work a bit longer and come up with something that's great!

Now, I'm not saying that I'll be doing anything great this year. But I will be anxious to see what it's all like. I really wish I could be a bit more concrete about it, but unfortunately, I can't say too much until it's more or less fact.

I guess that's about all I have to say for this month, except to remind you that maybe YOU should make some resolutions as well.

Not because there's something wrong with you, but because there's everything RIGHT with you! All you have to do is make use of yourself, the best use possible, and you're bound to enjoy the New Year more than any before.

But whatever you resolve, and whatever you do, just make sure that you make the most out of this year.

Love,
David.

