

Jan Johansen

Titles: 1 Sources: 1 Stills: 1

Born: Denmark; c1966



Right – sternly enduring the torture of lessons, with Andres Ørgård left

Source: *The Moving Picture Boy*

The Moving Picture Boy entry:

““In **"KUNDSKABENS TRÆ"**, probably the most truthful film ever made about adolescence, Nils Malmros took advantage of the physical and psychological changes of puberty by filming his two-year story over a full two-year period, so that we actually watch the changes happening. The children's bodies elongate, their expressions become more cagey and pensive, most get interested in the opposite sex. Some get nicer, others don't.

One boy revenges himself on a shy, attractive girl who has rebuffed him, by launching a campaign of slander, ridicule and ostracism which reduces her to a tragic wreck. Loyalties slither, conformism makes cowards of previously decent boys. We wait to see who, if anyone, will go to Elin's aid, and at last someone does, but it is too little, and too late.

In the quaintly formal early-teen society of classless Denmark around 1960, this film never strikes a false note. It is unpredictable, often wonderfully funny, and sometimes appallingly painful.

As the weak, good-natured Niels-Ole, the central male character, Jan Johansen is perfect. Brian Thiebel (a crewcut oddball) and Bo von der Lippe (a puckish anatomist) are outstanding among the other boys.”

FILMOGRAPHY

<i>Year</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Role</i>
81		KUNDSKABENS TRÆ ("The Tree of Knowledge")	as Niels-Ole with <i>Andres Ørgård, Brian Thiebel, Bo von der Lippe, etc</i>