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La Banda de los Ochos

("The Gang of Eight")

Mexico / Spain : 1961 : dir. Tulio Demichelli :

: 95 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

Cesareo "Pulgarcito" Quezadas

Luz Romero; Antonio Vela; Mary Loli Cobo; Maria Cristina Villerino

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	□	≠	Z	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"Spanish street urchins try to get the money together to buy a wolfhound held in a pound which is threatened with being skinned. In this fairly sentimental and stilted children's film the love of animals is just about convincing but the twists in the story are all too improbable. ** "

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Quezadas:

"The cheeky little Quezadas was for some time identified with his debut role as "Tom Thumb", and continued to be referred to as "Pulgarcito". But he soon graduated from mischief to pathos, and "EL SORDO" was a marvellously grotesque wallow, with the comedian Antonio Espino playing soppy Chaplin to his Coogan and praying to the Virgin to restore his hearing - lost while defending a girl from rape - so he can hear what the desperate child is shouting.

(Which is, as it happens: "I've been bitten by a poisonous spider! ")

In "JOSELITO VAGABUNDO", he was teamed for the second time, after an interval of six years, with the Spanish boy singer "Joselito" (José Jimenez). Though Joselito was the elder by four years or so, his career was to continue longer."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Spanish children's films are a bit of a lost cause, if the reviews in the *Speelfilm Encyclopedie* are any indication. This one seems to recall "SKIPPY" (31), the film which launched the solo career of Jackie Cooper after **OUR GANG**. Cesareo Quezadas was about 11, having made "PULGARCITO" in 57. Some of his other titles are a real hoot to read - "ANGELITOS DEL TRAPECIO" ("Little Angels of the Trapeze", 58), "MI NIÑO, MI CABALLA Y YO" ("My Boy, My Horse and Me", 58) and best of all "CAPERUCITA Y PULGARCITO CONTRA LOS MONSTROS" ("Red Riding Hood and Tom Thumb Versus the Monsters", 60). It can't possibly be as good as it sounds.

See subject index under **DOGS, FOLLOW THE LEADER (Children's Gangs)** and **STREET KIDS**.