

Gigot

US : 1962 : dir. Gene Kelly : 20th Century Fox / Seven Arts : 104 min
 prod: Kenneth Hyman : scr: John Patrick & Jackie Gleason : dir.ph.: Jean Bourgoïn
[Diane Gardner](#)
 Jackie Gleason; Katherine Kath; Gabrielle Dorziat; Albert Remy; Yvonne Constant;
 Jean Lefebvre; Jacques Marin; Germaine Delbat; Albert Dinan

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⚠	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5503	1.5	5	1	526	-	-	-	-	-	No	<i>Unseen</i>



*Chaplin was always clean shaven for his tramp roles. Gleason looks more like Bud Spencer after a night on the tiles
 Source: The Films of 20th Century-Fox*

Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001 review:

“Sentimental, well-acted tale of a deaf-mute (Gleason) and a young girl in Paris. Simple film, well done: Gleason is excellent. *** ”

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review – identical to above

Halliwell's Film Guide review

“The mute caretaker of a Montmartre boarding house looks after an ailing prostitute and her child. From Paris, Hollywood, comes a grotesque piece of self-indulgence, the arch example of the clown who wanted to play Hamlet. Plotless, mawkish and wholly unfunny.”

“Chaplinesque pretensions have proved fatal before to artists who will not accept their own limitations.”
 – Gavin Lambert

The Films of 20th Century-Fox review:

“ **"GIGOT"** is entirely the creation of Jackie Gleason. It was his idea to a film about a warm-hearted, mute French simpleton, and it is his story, performance, and musical score. He was enthusiastically supported by Gene Kelly as his director, and the decision was made to shoot the entire picture in Paris. But the end result about this gentle but pathetic figure, so loving by nature and so badly treated by others, is too special a piece of material to find a large audience. Gleason and Kelly also claim that the film was edited without their approval and ruined in the process.”

Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89
review:

“A somewhat moving performance by Jackie Gleason as a Chaplinesque mute in Paris who becomes the protector of a French streetwalker and her little daughter is the best feature of this maudlin entry. ****1/2**”

The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television review:

“Should be watched on an empty stomach, otherwise you might make a nasty mess when you throw up over the excessive sickly saccharine that director Gene Kelly smears over this already sticky yarn about a deaf mute (Jackie Gleason) who befriends animals and children. Yuch! 77”

[no listing in "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "A Pictorial Guide to the Talkies", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "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. One thumbs-up, two thumbs-down and two so-so reviews makes for an interesting spread of opinion, but the fact that most other guides simply ignore it should be taken as a warning. Nothing else is known of Diane Gardner, who is only named in one of these sources.

See subject index under **DISABLED / HANDICAPPED** and **SPECIAL FRIENDSHIPS**.