

# Infanzia, Vocazione e Prime Esperienze di Giacomo Casanova, Veneziano

( "Childhood, Vocation and First Experiences of Giacomo Casanova, Venetian"  
aka: "Casanova: His Youthful Years", "Giacomo Casanova: Childhood & Adolescence" )  
Italy : 1969 : dir. Luigi Comencini : 125 min  
prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

**Claudio de Kunert** .....  
Leonard Whiting; Senta Berger; Maria Grazia Buccella; Tina Aumont; Wilfrid Brambell; Lionel Stander; Linda Sini;  
Raoul Grassilli; Mario Scaccia; Silvia Dionisio ;Sara Franchetti; Isabella Savona; Cristina Comencini; Clara Colosimo;  
Ennio Balbo; Evi Maltagliati; Gino Segurini; Elisabetta Fanti; Jacques Herlin; Sofia Dionisio; Umberto Raho;  
Gino Santercole; Pino Bella; Patrizia De Clara; Erminio De Rossi; Maria Cristina Farnese; Maria Franchin;  
Antonio Gallo; Giovanna Manfredonia; Loredana Martinez; Ida Meda; Lelia Menegueti; Giacomina Palma;  
Gigi Reder; Carlo Russo; Fernanda Vitali; Mario Beron

| Ref: | Pages | Sources | Stills | Words | Ω 8 ≠ M ♀ | Copy on VHS | Last Viewed |
|------|-------|---------|--------|-------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| 5957 | 1.5   | 2       | 0      | 562   | - - - -   | No          | unseen      |

## Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"The son of a Venetian actress is destined for the priesthood by those who raise him, but as an eighteen-year old seminarist he becomes the object of female love, extricates himself from both an inappropriate calling and potential marriage, and opts for a career as hedonist. A very beautiful and stylish, portrait-like illustration of the first parts of Casanova's memoirs has the child and youth come to fruition amid manifest social contradictions and all manner of hypocrisies which would make a cynical egotist of him. The historical chronicle is a vehicle, as always, for a pithy and sharp critique of child-raising. \*\*\*1/2 "

## CVMC video retail/rental website review:

"Here's an interesting portrait of Giacomo Casanova during his childhood and adolescence. The first half of the film places our hero (Claudio De Kunert) at roughly nine years of age, for the most part explores the culture of his time through young eyes but also addresses issues [sic] of relations with parents and sexual awakening. The latter half of the film has Casanova (Leonard Whiting) at about nineteen and will be a bit more

difficult to follow if you are not familiar with the Italian language.

Warning: adult themes [sic]; sexual themes; violence; moderate nudity  
Language: Italian (also some unknown language) (with Italian subtitles)  
Categories: Biography, Boy Films, Little to Preteen, Adolescent, Drama  
NOTE: This movie is in Italian with NO ENGLISH SUBTITLES OR DUBBING."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Bloomsbury Foreign Film Guide", "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. Giovanni Jacopo Casanova de Seingalt lived 1725-1798. This would make an interesting double bill, perhaps, with "**FELLINI-CASANOVA**" (76), though I doubt the latter touched on his boyhood at all. Luigi Comencini is an internationally respected Italian director who has frequently worked with children, both for television and cinema. Nothing else is known of Claudio de Kunert (Belgian, by the sound of it). He's not listed in "*The Moving Picture Boy*". Leonard Whiting is best known for his starring role opposite Olivia Hussey in Zeffirelli's "**ROMEO AND JULIET**", released the previous year.

See subject index under **CHILDHOODS OF THE FAMOUS**, [DIRECTORS](#), [HISTORY](#), [RELIGION](#) and [SEX & SEXUALITY](#).