

Kochankowie Mojej Mamy

("My Mum's Lovers")

Poland : 1985 : dir. Radoslaw Piwowarski :

: 96 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

[Rafal Wegrzyniak](#)

Krystyana Janda; Bohdan Smolen; Krzysztof Zaleski; Zdzislaw Kuzniar; Hanna Skarzanka; Monika Faghoury

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	KBytes	Ω	□	≠	Z	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5257	1½	2	1		3	-	-	-	-	No	Unseen

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"Drama about a teenage boy who tries to rescue his beloved mother from drugs and prostitution. He's placed in an orphanage where he patiently awaits the day of her release. Finally he must look on in anguish as she marries. This lively and moving film is also successful thanks to extremely mature performances from Janda and Wegrzyniak. ***½ "

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Wegrzyniak:

"Young Wegrzyniak, a Warsaw schoolboy, gives a terrific performance in **"KOCHAN-KOWIE MOJEJ MAMY"** as a fatherless boy with an out-of-control mother - played by the unique Krystyana Janda, a sort of blonde Anna Magnani - who finds that the best way to pay the household bills is to look for "protectors", dulling her distaste with drink and pills.

Her young son finds himself doing the shopping and cooking and, between times, having to restrain his mother from drug dependency and even suicide attempts. There

is a terrible scene where he has to tie her up as if she were a mad-woman, which by this time she practically is.

Radoslaw Piwowarski's film is not all grim by any means, nor is the mother a monster - merely a weak, lost, sometimes violent charmer. There is abundant humour and understanding, but a growing sense of hopelessness and a desperate concern about the boy. Rafal Wegrzyniak reveals himself as one of the finest child actors of the European cinema."

[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. One to watch out for, clearly. Holmstrom is quite right when he implies that some of the finest performances on celluloid from children have come, not from veteran screen actors or a small handful of prepubescent movie stars, but from kids who disappear without trace after one stunning performance. Wegrzyniak, as it happens, did make two more films in Poland the following year: **"POCIAG DO HOLLYWOOD"** ("Train to Hollywood") and **"ZLOTA MAHMUDIA"** ("The Gold Coin"). He's about 15 here.

See, for comparison, the 1980 Czech film **"DIVKA S MUSLI"** ("Girl with a Shell") which centred on a 14-year old girl (Díta Kaplanová) attempting to keep the home together for an

alcoholic mother, and see subject index under **ALCOHOLISM / DRUGS, EASTERN EUROPE / SOVIET BLOC** and **ORPHANS / ADOPTION / CHILDREN'S HOMES**.