

El Lazarillo de Tormes

("The Little Guide of Tormes"; aka: "Lazarillo")

Spain : 1959 : dir. César Fernández Ardavín : Hesperia : 109 min

prod: : scr: César Fernández Ardavín : dir.ph.: Manuel Berenguer

[Marco Paoletti](#)

Juan Jose Menéndez; Carlos Casaravilla; Margarita Lozano; Memmo Carotenutto;
Carlo Pisacane

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	≠	M	☺	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5938	2	4	2	623	3	-	-	-	-	No	<i>unseen</i>



Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"Remake of the [1925] film of the same name which is not devoid of quality. Today it proves to have been the only successful film from this

director, which can pride itself above all on good performances from his cast, most notably that of Carlo Pisacane. ***1/2** "

Bloomsbury Foreign Film Guide review:

“A fatherless boy (Paoletti), abandoned by his mother, finds a living with a series of employers, [*among whom*] a blind beggar, a miserly sacristan, a fake nobleman and a troupe of travelling players. He encounters vanity, cupidity and deception, and learns the skills of cunning and connivance in order to survive. A mildly satirical but otherwise stolid morality tale, enlivened by the young Italian actor’s performance and an impeccable re-creation of 17th-century Castille. Best Film: Berlin 1970”

CVMC video retail/rental website review:

“In 1503, Lazaro (Marco Paoletti), roughly nine years of age, is given permission by his mother to travel with a blind beggar, learn the ways of the world. Trouble is, the old man is quite poor and not too willing to share his food. Lazaro then searches for a new master, doesn't fare much better with either a priest or a broke nobleman, but his luck finally turns when he stumbles onto a group of "actors." With them, food and money is abundant, yet the boy's conscience wages a small war when it is learned how the group makes its income. A thoroughly charming tale which includes a number of comical scenes. Paoletti is a lot of fun and a strikingly handsome boy. Winner of a number of awards. You must be a preferred member to rent this video.

Rated NR: adult themes; violence
Language: Spanish (with English subtitles)

Categories: Boy Films, Little to Preteen, Comedy, Drama

Although the subtitles are well done, they are white and occasionally hard to see on white backgrounds. This is an older print that is in decent shape but which does include some speckles; the tape has three or four spots where there are minor tracking problems which cause brief blackouts.”

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Paoletti:

“Like Edoardo Nevola, the elegant, humorous Marco made his debut in **"IL FERROVIERE"**. He went on to make fewer films but with more glamorous roles, notably as the adventurous heroes of the oft-filmed **"DAGLI APPENNINI ALLE ANDE"** and **"LAZARILLO DE TORMES"**. Paoletti made at least one further appearance [*after* 1959], in **"SAUL E DAVID"** (Italy/Spain 65).”

[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. Remake of a 1925 silent with the equally charming Alfredo “Pitusin” Hurtado. Reputedly this story, published in Spain anonymously in 1554, is the first instance in world literature of a child protagonist. Marco Paoletti (10) also made **"IL MAESTRO"** (“The Schoolmaster”) in 1957, and **"PIA DE' TOLOMEI"** in 1958.

See also the 1925 original, and subject index under [HISTORY](#), [NOTABLE FIRSTS](#), [OSCAR WINNERS / AWARD WINNERS](#) and [WORKING BOYS & GIRLS](#).