

La Leyenda del Tambor

("The Legend of the Drummer Boy" ?)

Spain / Mexico : 1981 : dir. Jorge Grau :

: 90 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

[Jorge Sanz](#)

Andrés García; Mercedes Sampietro; Antonio Canal; Eduardo Bea; Fernando Hilbeck; Alfredo Mayo; Vicente Parra; Iñaki Aierra; Guillermo Antón; José Luis Barceló; Jorge Bosso; Diana Bracho; Roberto Camardiel; Alejandro De Enciso; Luis Marín; Aldo Sambrell; Javier de la Cima

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω 8 € M ♀	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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So where are all the drummer boy sagas in British cinema? Italy has its "CUORE", and Spain this one. We are being DEPRIVED.



Soldiers get helmets and muskets. Drummer boys get woollen hats that must have made them very easy to pick off from a distance. History has not troubled to record it, but the mortality rate among these mascots, marching at the head of their troops, must have been grievously high.

*Source for all colour stills:
CVMC website*





Trousers were only issued to the front line troops, evidently.

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

“During the Spanish War of Independence, a child succeeds in driving off Napoleon’s troops with his drum. Tedious and poverty-stricken filming of a true historical incident, which Ignacio Iquino had already brought to the screen. 1/2* ”

CVMC video retail/rental website review:

“Set in 1808 Spain, this film follows the events leading up to and actual battle between a group of peasants and the aristocratic army. Much of the story is seen through the eyes of a drummer boy (Jorge Sanz). Sanz, one of Spain's most popular child stars, was roughly twelve during filming; several years later, he starred as the young Conan in **"CONAN THE BARBARIAN"**. A talkative piece which may best be appreciated by those familiar with its language.

Rated NR: adult themes [sic]; brief nudity; violence

Language: Spanish

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

NOTE: This movie is in Spanish 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 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. How would he know the film contains “adult themes” if he can’t understand a word that’s spoken? Perhaps war is an “adult theme”. Maybe that’s it.

The story had been filmed at least twice previously,
See subject index under **HISTORY** and **WAR**, for a sub-section on boy soldiers.