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Peter en de Vliegende Autobus

("Peter and the Flying Bus")

Netherlands : 1976 : dir. Karst van der Meulen

: 90 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

[Maarten van Kruysen](#)

Lex Goudsmit; Martin Brozius; Joost Prinsen; Piet Römer; Allard van der Scheer; Rita Corita;
Tanja Smit; Henny Alma

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	KBytes	Ω	□	≠	Z	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5285	1½	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	unseen



That stalwart of Dutch children's cinema, Lex Goudsmit, is mesmerised centre
Source: Speelfilm Encyclopedie

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"A neat, enthralling children's film in which the younger ones act miles better than the rather hammy professional actors like Goudsmit and Brozius, who are inventors of an apparatus that can make things float, such as the bus during a school trip. A third success for Van der Meulen after "**CIRCUS OP STELTEN**" and "**OOM FERDINAND EN DE TOVERDRANK**". **1½ "

International Film Guide 1978 comment:

"...Finally, one should mention "**PETER EN DE VLIEGENDE AUTOBUS**" ("Peter and the Flying Car"), which is the third feature directed for children by Karst van der Meulen. An excellent fantasy, contrived with modest means."

[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. Nice to see another critic (besides myself) draw attention to the shameless hamming of adult actors in children's films. Nevertheless that critic gives this one the thumbs up, and Peter Cowie describes it as "excellent" (compared to **what?**). A kids' film must be dire indeed before reviewers in general will censure it. Nothing's too bad for our kids – seems to be the operative standard.

From the examples I've seen of Van der Meulen's work, he brings Dutch children's cinema doggedly into line with the mundane, patronising output of the UK, Australia and of course Disney. Nothing Van der Meulen has shot would seem at all out of place in the catalogue of the Children's Film Foundation, and I could hardly be more scathing than that. Unlike British children, however, Dutch children are exposed to a far richer diet of productions from all over Europe, East and West, and from Scandinavia, so that they're in a far better position to make taxing comparisons. This has done nothing, as I say, to force up the standard of their domestic product, however. All sins are forgiven a film in your own language.

Nothing else is known of Maarten van Kruysen (presumably playing Peter), who was 12.

See subject index under **COMEDY, FLIGHT** and **SCIENCE FICTION** (nutty professors would have to be classed in that category). And what's the betting there are some moronic adult crooks to be sorted out along the way?