

Prehysteria

US : 1993 : dir. Albert & Charles Band : Full Moon : 86 min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Austin O'Brien](#)
 Brett Cullen; Colleen Morris; Samantha Mills; Tony Longo; Stuart Fratkin; Stephen Lee

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	≠	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide
 1996 review:

"A family of raisin farmers (!) tries to protect five unusual critters their dog has hatched from eggs she stole from a greedy entrepreneur. An idea that will enchant children of all ages – pet dinosaurs the size of cats – overcomes a routine script and obvious direction. The effects are OK but scanty, and needed a bigger budget. Followed by a sequel. From Full Moon. ****1/2** "

[**no listing** in "The Critics' Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993" or "Video Movie Guide 1993"]

Radio Times note:

"Two youngsters find a pair of pygmy dinosaur eggs, and encounter all kinds of

comical problems when the eggs actually hatch."

TV Times note:

"Family action comedy about two kids who find the eggs of five pygmy dinosaurs. ****** "

Sunday Times notes:

"Two young children discover a pair of dinosaur pygmy eggs."

"Two children believe they have made the discovery of a lifetime when they find a pair of dinosaur pygmy eggs."

No further information currently available. Looks like a straight-to-video title, released the same year as "**JURASSIC PARK**", and no doubt doing good video rental trade on the back of Spielberg's blockbuster. It was followed with spirit-sapping inevitability by "**PREHYSTERIA 2**" and "**PREHYSTERIA 3**", by which time even the undiscerning video rental market had seen enough, thank you very much. The central concept, to be fair, of a dinosaur in your pocket, is a novel one and certain to intrigue children, but the stop-motion work would need to be of a high order to content a generation accustomed to megabuck special effects.

Young Austin O'Brien had the misfortune to co-star the same year in Arnold Schwarzenegger's expensive misfire "**LAST ACTION HERO**", and was also seen in the disappointing "**THE LAWNMOWER MAN**" ('92), not to mention "**MY GIRL 2**" ('94) and "**THE LAWNMOWER MAN 2**" ('95). Ah well, beggars can't be choosers, Austin.

See the two sequels, and subject index under **COMEDY** and **DRAGONS AND DINOSAURS**.

