

Santa Claus

(aka: "The Visit of Santa Claus")

UK : 1898 : dir. G. A. Smith : G.A.S. Films

Silent : 75 sec

prod: G. A. Smith : scr: : dir.ph.:

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Cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	¢	M	Ⓜ	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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The British Film Catalogue 1895-1985 listing:

"Trick. Children dream of Santa Claus coming down the chimney."

[no listing in "Classics of the Silent Screen", "A Pictorial History of the Silent Screen", "Silent Movies: A Picture Quiz Book", "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)", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "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. The earliest known appearance in cinema of Father Christmas / Kris Kringle / De Kerstman / Pere Noël. He put in another showing later the same year for a different British film-maker, R.W. Paul, in "**SANTA CLAUS AND THE CHILDREN**", and in 1900 France made "**RÊVE DE NOËL**". The caption "trick" denotes the use of special photographic effects, as in ghost scenes, time reversals, double exposures etc.

Denis Gifford's *British Film Catalogue* is a staggering work of research, listing virtually every live action film shot in the UK over the first ninety years of the cinema, but uniquely valuable for information on these earliest silent pieces, the great majority of which we must assume to be lost.

See subject index under **CHRISTMAS** and [SILENT CINEMA](#).