

The Grasshopper

(original title unknown) [Skakavac]

Yugoslavia (Croatia) : 1975 : dir. Dušan Vukotic : Viba

: 15 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

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Cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5533	1.5	1	1	381	-	-	-	-	-	No	Unseen



Source: International Film Guide 1976

International Film Guide 1976 note:

“Dušan Vukotic’s **"THE GRASSHOPPER"** is another of his patented live action-animation story films, a fifteen-minute co-production with Viba Film. The theme is nostalgia, a salute to the past heroics of partisan-fighting, viewed through the eyes of a young boy about ten absorbed in the magic of his drawing board. In the first part of the film Vukotic satirises the petty-bourgeois manners of a well-to-do family on a picnic in the woods, reducing the parents’ idle prattle to musical buffoonery on the soundtrack. Stealing away to a tree stump, the youth [*sic*] communicates with a boy his own age recreated in the cut-outs, who was killed on this very spot during a skirmish with the enemy. The combination of real-life and animated sequences is extremely

effective through compact editing and the boy’s own disarming world of fantasy.”

– Ronald Holloway

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "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, but one of the more interesting themes for a short film I've come across in a long while. The word is littered with these pregnant, silent spots where battles, skirmishes, murders and other violent deaths have taken place in the long-forgotten past – mortal struggles which archaeology itself is not able to expose. That is why ritually murdered Celtic bodies recovered from peat bogs hold such a fascination for us – they preserve so vividly moments of high drama from two thousand years in the past.

See subject index under **ART / CREATIVITY, EASTERN EUROPE / SOVIET BLOC, LIVE ACTION KIDS – ANIMATED SETTINGS, SHORT FILMS** and **WAR (boy soldiers)**.