

SUBJECT INDEX:

DIRECTORS

A handful of internationally recognised directors have won a name for their sensitive and creative handling of children, while others have shown a marked penchant for childhood themes. This list will also include several journeyman directors who just happened to direct children frequently, even if they showed no marked empathy for the age group, and none of their films were especially memorable. (It would perhaps be equally illuminating to draw up a short-list of major directors who steered clear of working with children altogether.) Scandinavian film-makers will figure large here, because their native cinema has displayed a warmth and humanity toward children unmatched anywhere else in the world, and strikingly at odds with the English-speaking cinema's notions of "good entertainment" for the young.

Empathy and insight do not necessarily go hand-in-hand, of course, and while no-one would deny that Steven Spielberg, for example, has shown a natural and sincere affinity for kids, and an ability to entice unselfconscious performances from them, none of his films has shown especial subtlety in his reading of them, and he has never made a film **for** them ("E.T." was as close as he would come to making a children's film, but like Disney he aimed his appeal as much at the parents in the audience, and a true children's film does not do this.) François Truffaut, for another, was keenly interested in children and their experience world, but the partisanship he showed could be tinged with an indulgent sentimentality (Spielberg's Achilles heel) which clouds clear-sightedness. For this very reason, some of the cinema's most memorable portraits of childhood have been made by directors with a clinical, detached eye, free of all romantic illusions about children, and those directors will not usually find their way onto this list.

Ken Annakin

: 60 [Swiss Family Robinson](#)

Billie August

Denmark

: 83 [Zappa](#)
: 84 [Busters Verden](#) [ch TV serial, later edited down and released as a film]
: 87 [Pelle Erobreren](#)
: 97 [Smilla's Sense of Snow](#)

Andrew Birkin

: [J M Barrie and the Lost Boys](#) (TV trilogy)
: [Burning Secret](#)
: [The Cement Garden](#)

Hark Bohm

West German children's film-maker

- : 72 Tschetan, der Indianerjunge
- : 73 Ich Kann Auch 'ne Arche Bauen
- : 76 Nordsee ist Mordsee
- : 77 Moritz, Lieber Moritz
- : 80 Im Herzen Des Hurrican [aka "Nicht Mit Uns"]

James B Clark

- : 59 A Dog of Flanders
- : 59 The Sad Horse (?)
- : 61 Misty
- : 63 Flipper
- : 64 Island of the Blue Dolphins
- : 66 And Now Miguel
- : 68 My Side of the Mountain
- : 71 The Little Ark

Luigi Comencini

Born: Salì, Brescia (Northern Italy); 8th June 1916

- : 52 Heidi (Switz/W Ger)
- : 67 Incompreso
- : 69 Infanzia, Vocazione e Prime Esperienze di Giacomo Casanova Veneziano
- : 70 I Bambini e Noi (TV series)
- : 71 Pinocchio (TV series)
- : 84 Cuore (TV serial)
- : 87 Un Ragazzo di Calabria

Vittorio De Sica

- : 42 I Bambini ci Guardano / The Children are Watching Us
- : 46 Sciuscia / Shoeshine †
- : 48 Ladri di Biciclette / Bicycle Thieves †

[† both won Best Foreign Film Oscars.]

Robert Flaherty

- : Nanook of the North
- : Man of Arran
- : Elephant Boy
- : Louisiana Story

Peter Greenaway

Born London, April 5th 1942

[see Virgin International Encyclopedia of Film]

- : 89 The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover [and screenplay]
- : 89 Death in the Seine [short; and screenplay]
- : 91 Prospero's Books
- : The Baby of Macon

Olle Hellbom

Swedish director, especially of Astrid Lindgren titles for children.

- : c68 Pippi Långstrump [Swed ch TV series]
- : 69 Pippi Långstrump på de Sju Haven
- : 70-72 Har Kommer Pippi Langstrump [Swed/Danish ch TV series]
- : 70 På Rymmen med Pippi Långstrump
- : 70 Pippi i Taka-Tuka Land
- : Bröderna Lejonhjärta [ch TV serial]

Harry Hook

- : 87 The Kitchen Toto
- : 90 Lord of the Flies
- : 92 Ishi, The Last of His Tribe [TV]

Vojtech Jasny

Czech director working chiefly in W Germany (and on TV), one of his recurring themes being the need of individuals - particularly emigrants - to return to the scene of their childhood. See NFT bulletin July '79.

- : 59 Touha
- : 63 Az Prijde Kokour
- : 68 Vsichi Dobri Rodaci
- : 75 Ansichten Eines Clowns
- : 76 Fluchtversuch
- : 77 Ruckkehr
- : 77 My Deceased Uncle

Karel Kachyna

One of the foremost Czech film directors, often works with children.

- : -- Stress of Youths
- : 70 Uz Zase Skacu Pres Kaluze
- : 80 Cukrová Bouda

Soren Kragh-Jacobsen

- : Island on Bird Street

Diane Kurys

France

- : Diabolo Menthe
- : Cocktail Molotov
- : Coup de Foudre
- : 90 C'est la Vie

Albert Lamorisse

[1922-1970]

"French director known for short fantasy films. " [H]

"Born in Paris, France. Director. Best known for his medium-length films "**CRIN BLANC**" (1952) and "**LE BALLON ROUGE**" (1956), with their mixture of child-like charm and rather cloying sentimentality. He had a highly developed camera eye (with a fondness for fast travelling shots) and the latter part of his career was devoted to perfecting a method of shooting from helicopters which achieved remarkable results in a feature, "**LE VOYAGE EN BALLON**" (1960), and several short films about France, full of breathtaking vistas of city and countryside seen from the air and shot in outstanding colour. His death in a helicopter accident deprived the cinema of a minor, yet distinctive, artist, whose camera innovations have influenced current photographic methods." – **The International Encyclopedia of Film**

- : 52 Crin Blanc / White Mane
- : 56 Le Ballon Rouge / The Red Balloon
- : 61 Un Voyage en Ballon / Stowaway in the Sky

[* all three featuring his son Pascal]

Philip Leacock

[1917-]

"British director, noted for his way with children, but lost to American television." [H]

- :46 Riders of the New Forest [CEF serial]
- :53 The Kidnappers [with Jon Whiteley, Vincent Winter]
- :56 The Spanish Gardener [with Jon Whiteley]
- :58 Take a Giant Step
- :59 The Rabbit Trap [with Kevin Corcoran]
- :61 Reach For Glory

Ken Loach

[1936-1995]

- : 69 Kes
- : Black Jack

Bernard McEveety

- :72 Napoleon and Samantha
- :73 One Little Indian

Vincent McEveety

- :70 Menace on the Mountain [TV]
- :71 Million Dollar Duck
- :72 The Biscuit Eater
- :74 The Castaway Cowboy

Alexander Mackendrick

[1912-]

- :52 Mandy
- :62 Sammy Going South
- :65 A High Wind In Jamaica

Louis Malle

[19 -1995]

:61	Zazie Dans le Metro
:71	Le Souffle au Coeur
:75	Lacombe Lucien
:	Pretty Baby
:	Au Revoir Les Enfants

* Further reading: "Malle on Malle", edited by Philp French

* In 1996 "A Celebration of Louis Malle" was held at the NFT, with clips and personal recollections by Volker Schlöndorff and others.

Nils Malmros

Denmark

:	Lars Ole 5C
: 77	Drenge
:	Kunskabens Træ

Chris Menges

: 92	CrissCross
: 94	Second Best

Gavin Millar

Former presenter of BBC2 arts programme "Arena"

:85	Dreamchild
:89	Danny the Champion of the World
:92	My Friend Walter

Janusz Nasfeter

[?]

Poland

: 72	Ten Okrutny Nikczemny Chlopiec
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Alan Parker

[1944-]

"Director, writer. Born: Islington, London, England February 14th 1944. Worked way up in advertising industry from mail room to top writer and director of nearly 500 TV commercials between 1969-78. " [Motion Picture Almanac 1994]

:71	S.W.A.L.K. / Melody [as writer only]
:73	No Hard Feelings [as writer/producer/director]
:75	The Evacuees [TV]
:76	Bugsy Malone [as writer/director]
:80	Fame
:81	Shoot the Moon
:82	Pink Floyd the Wall

Maurice Pialat

France

Deb : 68	L'Enfance Nue
: 71	La Maison des Bois [TV serial]
: 79	Passe ton bac d'Abord

Satyajit Ray

Internationally celebrated Indian film-maker

- : 55 Pather Panchali
- : 59 Apur Sanar
- : 64 Two [documentary]
- : 69 Gopi Gyne Bagha Byne
- : 74 Sonar Kella
- : 78 Joi Baba Felunath
- : 79 Heerak Rajar Deshe

Carol Reed

[1906-1976]

- [deb] : 34 Midshipman Easy
- : 38 Bank Holiday
- : 48 The Fallen Idol
- : 51 An Outcast of the Islands
- : 55 A Kid For Two Farthings
- : 68 Oliver!

Yves Robert

[1920-]

- :61 La Guerre Des Boutons
- :63 Bébert et l'Omnibus

Lise Roos

[Denmark 10th February 1941]

"Lise Roos (born February 10, 1941), who attracted attention last year with her film for children entitled "I DIN FARS LOMME" ("In Daddy's Pocket"), was originally trained as a kindergarten teacher. Through this she came into contact with theatrical work for children and put on a number of productions, including some paper collage exhibitions. She wrote a book for children, "Trommen" ("The Drum"), which she later re-worked into a film script filmed in 1967 by Sune Lund-Sorensen. She has worked for Danish TV for a number of years and has produced several programmes about children or for children: "Sofus, Rode Sodavand" (about a pervert [sic] who entices children by offering them pop), "Hvordan SÜ Han Ud?" ("What Did He Look Like?"), a documentary about children's ability to register (or let their imagination run wild about) an everyday occurrence. In 1970 she made her first full-length film, "HEY, STINE!", about the experiences of a Danish girl named Stine when she moves to entirely different surroundings in Sweden and has difficulties in settling in... With "Pigen Silke" ("A Girl Named Silke", 1971) and "En Fodsels Forlob" ("The Course of a Birth", 1972) Lise Roos returned to documentaries: in the first she showed the development in a child (her own daughter) between the second and third year of its life, and in the second she records herself while giving birth to her latest child. The same year she made her second feature film for children, "I DIN FARS LOMME" ("In Daddy's Pocket") once again with the girl Stine, who in the meantime has reached the age of eleven. In April 1974 Lise Roos was in Paris to take part in the festival for women directors, where she had an opportunity to present a new short film, a documentary biography of a baby entitled "Eline 0-16 MÜneder" ("Eline: 0 to 16 months")." [International Film Guide 1975]

- :67 Tromme [screenplay only, from her own book]
- Sofus, Rode Sodavand[TV - prod]
- Hvordan SÜ Han Ud?[TV - prod]
- :70 Hey, Stine!
- :71 Pigen Silke
- :72 En Fodsels Forlob
- :72 I Din Fars Lomme
- :74 Eline 0-16 MÜneder

Roberto Rossellini

:47 Germania Anno Zero
:48 Ladri di Biciclette [Bicycle Thieves]
:51 Europa 51

Renny Rye

: December Rose [UK ch TV serial]
: Box of Delights [UK ch TV serial]

Henri Safran

Australian

: Storm Boy
: 85 Bush Christmas

Vera Simkova-Plivova

Czech.

: 76 Pani Kluci
: c79 Brontosaurus
: 80 Krakonos a Lyznici
: 97 Artus, Merlin a Prchlici

Karel Smyczek

Czech.

:80 Jen Si Tak Trochu P°sknout / Just a Little Whistle

Steven Spielberg

:75 Jaws
:77 Close Encounters of the Third Kind
:82 E.T. the Extraterrestrial
:84 Indiana Jones & the Temple of Doom
:87 Empire of the Sun
:91 Hook
:93 Jurassic Park
:97 The Lost World - Jurassic Park
:-- Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade
:-- Twilight Zone the Movie
:-- Poltergeist [as producer]
:-- The Goonies [as producer]
:-- Young Sherlock Holmes
:-- Amazing Stories
:-- The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles
: -- A.I.

Norman Taurog

[1899-]

Uncle of Jackie Cooper

"American director, former child actor, in Hollywood from 1917 " [H]

:29 Lucky Boy [?]

:31	Skippy [Academy Award]
:31	Sooky
:33	Huckleberry Finn
:35	Mrs Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch
:38	Mad About Music
:38	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
:38	Boys' Town
:40	Young Tom Edison
:42	A Yank at Eton
:52	Room For One More / The Easy Way

Norman Tokar

[1920-1979]

:62	Big Red
:63	Savage Sam
:63	Sammy the Way Out Seal
:64	A Tiger Walks
:66	Follow Me, Boys!
:67	A Boy Called "Nuthin" [TV]
:69	Rascal
:75	The Apple Dumpling Gang
:76	No Deposit, No Return
:76	Where the Red Fern Grows
:78	Candlehoe
:78	The Cat From Outer Space

Francois Truffaut

[1932-]

:58	Les Mistons
:59	Les Quatres Cents Coups
:69	L'Enfant Sauvage
:76	L'Argent de Poche

Henk van der Linden

Dutch director of cheap, quasi-amateur children's films reputedly of little redeeming merit.

:53	De Dikke op Oorlogspad
:55	Sjors van de Rebellenclub
:60	Avonturen van een Zigeunerjongen (with son Cor van der Linden)
:62	Het Verraad van de Zwarte Ridder (with son Cor)
:62	Robin Hood en zijn Schelmen (with son Cor)
:62	Sjors en Sjimmie op Pirateneiland (with son Cor)
:64	De Avonturen van Pietje Bell (with son Cor)
:64	De Jongen uit het Wilde Westen (with son Cor)
:65	Vrijbuiters van het Woud (with son Cor and daughter Jos van der Linden)
:66	Sjors en Sjimmie en de Gorilla (with son Cor)
:66	De Man met het Zwarte Masker (with son Cor)
:67	Indianenoverval in de Dodenpas
:68	Sjors en Sjimmie in het Land der Reuzen
:71	Sjors en Sjimmie en de Toverring
:72	Sjors en Sjimmie en de Rebellen
:75	Pim Pandoer in het Nauw

:77 Sjors en Sjimmie en het Zwaard van Krijn

Karst van der Meulen

Netherlands

: 72 Circus op Stelten

Vaclav Vorlicek

William A Wellman

[1896-1975]

"American director, former pilot, actor and Foreign Legionary; in Hollywood from 1921. " [H]

:33 Wild Boys of the Road [Frankie Darro]
:50 The Happy Years [Dean Stockwell]
:50 The Next Voice You Hear [Gary Gray]
:56 Good-bye, My Lady [Brandon de Wilde]

[see appraisal of his work - Films & Filming - April 73]

Non-fiction

~ 45 directors – 208 titles ~