

The Boy Cried Murder

UK / W Germany / Yugoslavia : 1965 : dir. George Breakston : Carlos-Avala : 86 min
 prod: Philip N Krasne : scr: Robin Estridge : dir.ph.:

[Frazer MacIntosh](#)

Veronica Hurst; Phil Brown; Tim Barrett; Beba Loncar

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	♂	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Source for all stills: Moviegoods website



*"Right! I've had **quite** enough of your stories! A good spanking, or a homicidal villain on your tail? Which is it to be?"*

Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 1996 review:

"A reworking of **"THE WINDOW"** set in an Adriatic resort town. A youngster noted for his fabrications witnesses a murder; no-one but the killer believes him. ****1/2** "

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review – identical to above

Halliwell's Film Guide review:

"A small boy has such a vivid imagination that nobody except the criminal believes him when he says he has witnessed a murder. Flat and unnecessary remake of **"THE WINDOW"** – which was later done again as **"EYE-WITNESS"**."

Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89 review:

"Boy with a vivid imagination witnesses a murder, but nobody will believe him. Remake

of **"THE WINDOW"** still carries some effective suspense. ****1/2** "

The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television review:

"The boy who cried "wolf" sees a murder, nobody believes him; filmed in Yugoslavia by George Breakston with Veronica Hurst. **7**"

Excerpt from **The Moving Picture Boy** entry on Frazer McIntosh:

"Frazer – generally known as "Fizz" – was the son of the broadcaster and TV newsreader Alex McIntosh. His film career was short, unusual and distinguished. Both his roles were leading ones, in Yugoslav co-productions, and both were directed by George Breakston, who had been an American child actor of the 1930s. In **"VOJNIK"** Frazer played a Yugoslav boy who runs messages, discreetly spies, and finally fights and dies for the partisans during World War Two, and in **"THE BOY CRIED MURDER"** – more or less a remake of **"THE**

WINDOW" in which Bobby Driscoll starred

in 1949 – he is the witness of a murder, hunted



by the murderer. In both films he showed a strong and appealing personality.

Yugoslav cinemas, with their ruthlessly logical phoneticisation of foreign names – "Dzejms Mejsn in Dzuljus Sizr" – always billed Fizz as "Frejzer Mekintos". He nearly made it a trio of leads, with the most glamorous to come last. For some time Orson Welles had been toying with the idea of a new **"TREASURE ISLAND"**, with himself as Long John Silver. Money was advanced, and Welles went to Alicante in Spain for a test shoot – building a full-scale model of the Hispaniola for the occasion, and engaging Frazer as his Jim Hawkins.

The great man and the boy were there for nearly a month, filming scenes... But, mysteriously, nothing more happened, and Welles decided instead to start the film he had always wanted to make: **"CHIMES AT MIDNIGHT"**. It was quite widely believed that Falstaff had made off with Long John Silver's gold.

(Six years later, Welles finally did play Silver in a **"TREASURE ISLAND"** directed by John Hough. But by now Frazer was pushing 20,

and Jim was played by Kim Burfield – erring, in fact, on the small side.)..."

[no listing in "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Radio Times Guide to Films", "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"]



Thighs like tree trunks went down very well in Yugoslavia



The film insists that it's in "color", but the production stills could not be more obviously tinted B&W

Adapted from a story by Cornell Woolrich. The Adriatic makes at least for an uncommon setting to a plot which has been worked to death over the years. Quite apart from **"THE WINDOW"** (Bobby Driscoll), **"TIGER BAY"** (Hayley Mills), **"EYEWITNESS"** (Mark Lester) and **"WITNESS"** (Lukas Haas), there have been less obvious remakes such as **"THE BOY WHO CRIED WEREWOLF"** (Scott Sealey), not to mention numerous *lone-desperado-pursuing-boy-on-the-run* films, for example **"THE YELLOW BALLOON"** (Andrew Ray). The most recent scrapings from the same dish came as **"CLUBHOUSE DETECTIVES"** (96), in which suitably obnoxious latterday kids accuse a neighbour of murdering his wife. It proves to have been a false alarm. **OR WAS IT?**

Australian Frazer McIntosh was 12, and one is intrigued how an Australian newsreader's son came to be cast, the year before this, as a boy partisan in a Yugoslavian production. Director George Breakston, 45, had played Pip in the 1934 **"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"**, and made about a dozen films as a boy, among them **"MRS WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH"** (34) and **"NO GREATER GLORY"** (34), later remade as **"THE BOYS OF PAUL STREET"**.

See subject index under [EASTERN EUROPE / SOVIET BLOC](#), **EYEWITNESSES TO MURDER / BOY WHO CRIED WOLF**, and for a similar setting see **"THAT SUMMER OF WHITE ROSES"**, starring Tom Conte as a simple lifeguard at a Yugoslavian holiday resort under the Nazi occupation.

**CHASE
INDESCRIBABLE!
SUSPENSE
UNBEARABLE!**

*Starts with
a scream...
ends with
a shocked
whisper!*



**IN
COLOR**

STARRING
VERONICA HURST

PHIL BROWN • BEBA LONGAR • TIM BARRETT • FRASER • FUZZ MACINTOSH

Directed by **GEORGE BREAKSTON** Produced by **PHILIP N. KRASNE** Screenplay by **ROBIN ESTRIDGE** From the story "The Boy Cried Murder" by **CORNELL WOOLRICH**

A Carlos-Avala Production in association with Bernard Lubet • A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

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"THE BOY CRIED MURDER"



When in Southern California visit Universal City Studios

**THAT NIGHT...
MURDER
WAS DONE—**

**...and
the boy
saw
who
did
it!**

**...and
the
killer
knows
he
saw
it!**

*From one
end of the
Monteegrin
Rivera
to the other...
the race
for a
boy's life
—or a
killer's death!*

**THE BOY
CRIED
MURDER**

in COLOR

STARRING: VERONICA HURST · PHIL BROWN · BEBA LONCAR · TIM BARRETT · FRASER · MCINTOSH
DIRECTED BY: GEORGE BREKSTON · PRODUCED BY: PHILIP N. KRAIG · SCREENPLAY BY: ROBIN ESTROUSE · FROM THE STORY "THE BOY CRIED MURDER" BY CORNELL WOOLRICH
A Carlos Azula Production in association with Bernard Lubat · A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

MAT—302

AD MAT NO. 302 — 3 COL. x 9" — 380 LINES



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MAT—202

AD MAT NO. 202 — 2 COL. x 9½" — 274 LINES

**CHASE INDESCRIBABLE!
SUSPENSE
UNBEARABLE!**

*Starts with a scream...
ends with a shocked
whisper!*

**THE BOY
CRIED
MURDER**

in COLOR

STARRING: VERONICA HURST · PHIL BROWN · BEBA LONCAR · TIM BARRETT · FRASER · MCINTOSH
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MAT—203

AD MAT NO. 203 — 2 COL. x 3½" — 108 LINES

**CHASE INDESCRIBABLE!
SUSPENSE
UNBEARABLE!**

*Starts with a
scream... ends with
a shocked whisper!*

**THE BOY
CRIED
MURDER**

in COLOR

STARRING: VERONICA HURST · PHIL BROWN · BEBA LONCAR · TIM BARRETT · FRASER · MCINTOSH
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