

Ce Que Savait Morgan

("What Morgan Knew")

France TV : 1973 : dir. Luc Béraud

: ? min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

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Rufus; Anouk Ferjæ

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NFT bulletin - Feb/March 1976 - review:

"This intelligent and subtle adaptation of Henry James' story "The Pupil" is one of a TV James series which included Chabrol's **"THE BENCH OF DESOLATION"** and Tony Scott's **"THE AUTHOR OF BEL-TRAFFLO"** (shown at the 1974 London Festival). Although it has often proved difficult to make viable versions of James' longer works, this series reveals that the short stories, if well-cast and directed, can be turned into successful screen miniatures."



Source: NFT Bulletin

No further information currently available. The boy of the title is not identified, naturally. I'm unfamiliar with that Henry James story, but I gather it's a study of the pedagogic relationship between a travelling diplomat's son and his private tutor. James' own childhood, so I'm told, would be a rich source for dramatisation. He grew up as the cosseted youngest son of the family, deeply scorned by his elder brothers and tainted with the suspicion of "effeminacy". It's been suggested that James poured something of himself not only into the ambiguous character of Miles in "Turn of the Screw", but also into the governess who is his ultimate downfall. As to What Morgan in fact Knew, that remains a mystery to me.

See also **"THE INNOCENTS"**, **"THE NIGHTCOMERS"** and **"TURN OF THE SCREW"**.