

Ces Sacrées Vacances

("These Bloody Holidays")

France : 1955 : dir. Robert Vernay

: 100 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

Jimmy Urbain; Yves-Marie Maurin

Sophie Desmarets; Pierre Destailles; Julien Carette; Jean Carmet; Pauline Carton;

Paulette Dubost; Danielle Godet; Lucien Baroux; Marguerite Pierry; Jean Tissier; Darry-Cowl

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Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"A farmer's family go on holiday in an old car which they sell en route for a lot of money to an American collector. Their unexpected wealth arouses the suspicion of the police and lands them in jail. This simple comedy is the pretext for a loose series of episodes which are presented in an entertaining way thanks to a string of choice character actors. **½ "

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Urbain:

"Many child actors have had some initial dance training, James Maurice Urbain is a rare example of a successful child actor who went on to win even greater fame as a ballet dancer.

His father worked in the cinema, both as scriptwriter and production manager, and Jimmy came before the camera when he was five. He stayed so for the next ten years, combining the cinema with some stage work - with Pierre Fresnay, for instance, in "Bille en Tête".

His best screen roles came in Delannoy's "CHIENS PERDUS SANS COLLIER" and in "LES MISÉRABLES" (where he was the Gavroche).

Urbain danced in Roland Petit's "Cyrano de Bergerac" in 1959. He was then in the Marquis de Cuevas' company 1960-62, with Golovine 1962-63, in the Grand Ballet Classique de France from 1965 and the Ballet Théâtre Contemporain from 1968. He won the Prix Nijinsky in Paris in 1966, and Gold Medals in

Paris, Milan and Venice. He danced many of the star roles in the classic repertory, and created new ones both in France and Italy. He later ran his own dance school at Angers."

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Maurin:

"Six Maurin siblings took to the stage and screen in the Forties and Fifties; but their mother - the singer Mado Maurin - married three times, and they came in three lots. By Mado's first husband, the sailor and writer Bourdeaux-Maurin de Kerguelen, there were Yves-Marie and his elder brother Jean-Pierre; by her second there was Patrick; and by her third there were three: Dominique, Jean-François and Marie-Véronique. Of the later Maurins, Dominique and Jean-François made the most impact on film.

The witty and whimsical little Yves-Marie made his Paris stage debut when he was five, in Mauriac's "Le Feu Sur La Terre", and soon afterwards was in his first movie, "LE TRAQUÉ", or "Gunman in the Streets". Hereabouts also he began doing TV, and reciting poems in cafés and bars. Further plays included "The Merry Wives of Windsor", "Anna Karenina" and "The Innocents", and he appeared at the Cirque d'Hiver in "Davy Crockett et Jimmy Boy".

He has continued to act tirelessly, on the stage in Sophocles, Molière, Racine, Giraudoux, Lorca, Sartre and Stoppard among others, as well as in his own production of Cocteau's "La Machine Infernale". His films as an adult include "LA FRANÇAISE ET L'AMOUR"

(60), "GOODBYE AGAIN" ("Aimez-Vous Brahms?" - US/Fr 61), "PARIS BRÛLE-T-IL?" (66), "SALUT L'ARTISTE" (Fr/It 73), "LES ONZE MILLES VERGES" (Fr/It) and "COLLECTIONS PRIVÉES" (79). And he has been in countless plays on TV.

He has also written poetry (praised by Montherlant), plays and novels, and latterly has been known simply as Yves-Marie. This is a Renaissance Maurin."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "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. Family holidays have always been easy prey for film comedies, but few have attained the sublime heights of Jacques Tati's "**LES VACANCES DE MONSIEUR HULOT**" (52). Compare for example with "**BANK HOLIDAY**" (UK 38), "**MR HOBBS TAKES A VACATION**" (62), "**NATIONAL LAMPOON'S EUROPEAN VACATION**" (85) and "**LE GLOIRE DE MON PERE**" (90).

Jimmy Urbain was 11, the same year that he made "**CHIENS PERDUS SANS COLLIER**" ("Lost Dogs Without Collars"), "**CULOTTES COURTES**" ("Short Trousers") and "**LES DIABOLIQUES**" ("The Fiends"). Yves-Marie Maurin, also 11, was with him in "**LES DIABOLIQUES**", "**CHIENS PERDUS**" and "**THE HAPPY ROAD**" (56), and in 1957 was seen in "**CLARA ET LES MÉCHANTS**" ("Clara and the Naughty Boys").

See subject index under **CARS, COMEDY** and possibly **SEASIDE TRIPS & HOLIDAYS**.