

Ford Startime: “The Turn of the Screw”

US TV play : 1959 : dir. John Frankenheimer : : ? min
 prod: : scr: James Costigan : dir.ph.:
[Alexandra Wager](#)
 Ingrid Bergman

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	□	≠	Z	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Source: *How Sweet it Was*

How Sweet it Was – Television: A Pictorial Commentary caption:

“Ingrid Bergman made her television acting debut on October 20, 1959, in James Costigan’s brilliantly eerie dramatisation of Henry James’s novella, directed by John Frankenheimer. **"The Turn of the Screw"** was part of the weekly **"Ford Startime"** series, which also brought Alec Guinness to American television that season in **"The Wicked Scheme of Jebal Deeks"**.”

[no listing in "Halliwell's Television Companion", "History of Television" or "Television's Greatest Hits"]

No further information currently available. It's not known who played Miles. Henry James' classic tale of the neurotic governess, her two knowing young charges, and the malignant spectral influence over them of the enigmatic Quint, has never yet been handled wholly satisfactorily, and this particular production could well be superior to the foolishly-titled 1961 Deborah Kerr vehicle **"THE INNOCENTS"**, with Peter Wyngarde as Quint. It was remade under the proper title in 1992 without great rejoicing, but there has also been Marlon Brando's woebegone prequel **"THE NIGHTCOMERS"** (72), and more recently still **"THE HAUNTING OF HELEN WALKER"**, not to speak of several television productions of Benjamin Britten's awful operatic treatment. Nothing further is known of Alexandra Wager.

See subject index under **GHOSTS & HAUNTINGS, HISTORY, NANNIES / GOVERNESSES** and **TV PLAYS**.