

Marinai Senza Stelle

("Sailors Without Stars")

Italy : 1943 : dir. Francesco de Robertis :

: ? min

prod: Francesco de Robertis : scr: Francesco de Robertis : dir.ph.:

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Gandusio

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
6026	1.5	1	1	589	-	-	-	-	-	No	unseen



Unidentified naval cadet – somewhat the worse for wear

Source: The Italian Cinema

The Italian Cinema review:

“Before we leave the new realist school we must discuss the work of the individualistic director Francesco de Robertis. For each of the seven films he has made so far he has acted as his own producer, has written the story and dialogue from his own original idea, and has even written the whole of the music for one film and part of the music for others. Nor has he ever used a professional actor or actress in any of his films with the exception of Gandusio, who has a small part in "**MARINAI SENZA STELLE**" ("Sailors Without Stars"); but then Gandusio plays the part of an actor, so in a sense he, like the rest, was only impersonating himself.”

“In 1943 De Robertis made "**UOMINI E CIELI**" ("Men and Skies"), a film, below his usual standard, about four Italian Air Force pilots, and "**MARINAI SENZA STELLE**" ("Sailors Without Stars"), a most charming little film about the boys of a naval school with at least two unforgettable scenes; the first is that in which the boys climb out of their dormitory at night to fight a mock battle between the two factions into which the school is divided for the possession of their ship; this scene, with the boys swarming all over the ship in the moonlight, is one of those scenes, so rare in the cinema and so satisfactory, when the visual beauty of the scene exactly matches

the emotional content, and by its matching heightens both enormously.

The other scene is very different; it is a courtroom scene, for the relatives of two of the orphan boys at the school have got themselves involved in some very heated litigation over a boat they were supposed to be building together. This little scene is a gem of the purest natural comedy, with not a line nor a grimace nor a gesture overplayed; not one of the characters had ever seen a camera before in his life; not one performance is less than perfect, and it establishes de Robertis as yet another Italian director capable of getting magnificent performances from ordinary people."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "Bloomsbury Foreign Film Guide", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Great Italian Films", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "The Moving Picture Boy", "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. Possibly an undiscovered gem, in the same vein as **"HUE AND CRY"** or **"LA GUERRE DES BOUTONS"** (itself endlessly reprised on the screen in one guise or another). Evidently Francesco de Robertis is not one of those post-war Italian directors regarded as essential viewing among foreign cineastes.

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