

Playhouse 90: “Child of Our Time”

US TV : c1956 : dir. George Roy Hill : Columbia / CBS

: 90 min

prod: Hubbell Robinson : scr:

: dir.ph.:

[Bobby Crawford](#)

Adult cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	KBytes	Ω □ ∄ Z ∞	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Bobby Crawford as the flotsam of war – **Child of Our Time**

Source: *How Sweet it Was*

Halliwell's Television Companion general note:

“Ambitious for its time (1958), this CBS season of "90-minute" film dramas supplied by Columbia marked the real beginning of the TV movie. Producer: Hubbell Robinson. Emmys: 1956 - Best New Series; 1957 - Best Dramatic Anthology; 1960 - Best Dramatic Programme.”

The History of Television note:

“ **"Playhouse 90"** was one of the outstanding live drama shows on television.”

How Sweet It Was note:

“ **"Playhouse 90"** was television's most ambitious undertaking - a series of weekly ninety-minute dramas with the best casts, writers,

directors, and producers that a high budget could buy. In its five years on the air it had its share of failures, particularly toward the end, when ratings considerations overrode artistic judgment, but **"Playhouse 90"** will be remembered for a long time to come as a show that provided some of television's most unforgettable dramas...

"Child of Our Time" - this searing drama based on the autobiographical book by Michel del Castillo, who as a young boy had been cast adrift in Europe during World War II. Bobby Crawford played the title role. George Roy Hill directed Irving Gaynor Neiman's play.”

[no listing in "Television's Greatest Hits" or "25 Years of ITV - 1955-1980"]

No further information currently available. I'm presuming that Bobby Crawford is the Robert whom Holmstrom cites as an acting older brother of Johnny Crawford (born 1946), who played Chuck Connors' son in the TV Western series **"The Rifleman"** (57-59), had appeared earlier as a Disney "Mouseketeer" (for pity's sake), and later emerged as a pop singer. Be that as it may, Holmstrom cites no titles for Bobby/Robert, and nothing else is known of him. Another production from this same raft of early TV movies was **"Eloise"**, with Evelyn Rudie.

"The continuation of state policy by other means", and its devastating effect upon those citizens denied voting rights (ie: children), has been a rich mine for the cinema, yielding films as diverse as **"IVANOVO DETSTVO"** ("My Name Is Ivan", 62), Zinnemann's **"THE SEARCH"** (48), **"THE PIED PIPER"** with Monty Woolley (42), **"JEUX INTERDITS"** (52), **"GERMANA ANNO ZERO"** (47) and Spielberg's **"EMPIRE OF THE SUN"** (87). Others, such as **"THE BOY FROM STALINGRAD"** (43) and Boorman's **"HOPE AND GLORY"** (87) viewed the Second World War as a spiffing good wheeze for getting off school. Children and war is such a favourite theme it is surprising no book has appeared examining these various treatments. Some of the best titles in the archive are to be found under that category.

See subject index under **AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL TITLES, REFUGEES / EVACUEES, WAR** and possibly **ORPHANS / ADOPTION**.