

Tomas – Et Barn Du Ikke Kan Nå

("Tomas: A Child Beyond Reach")

Denmark documentary : 1981

: dir. Mads Egmont Christensen & Lone Hertz : HTM Film : 100 min

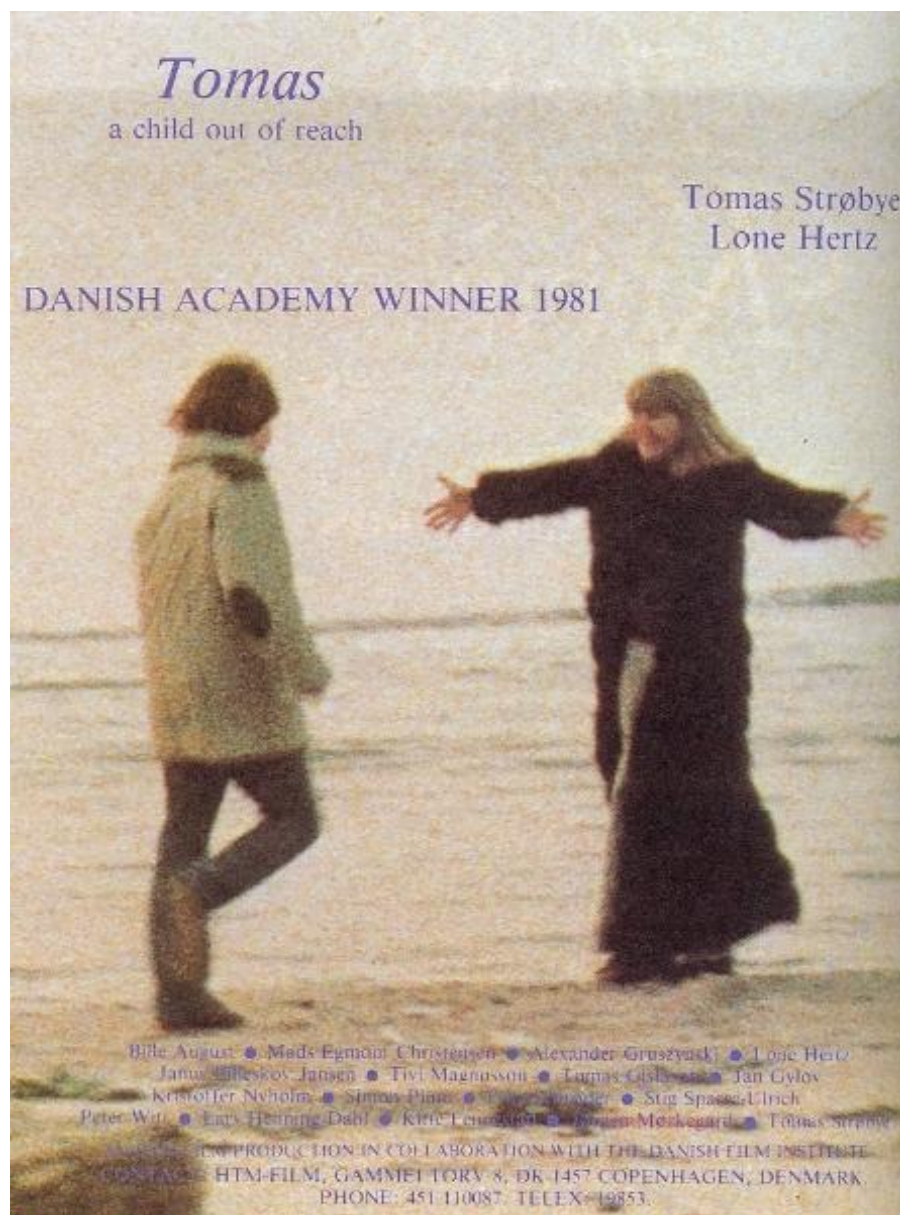
prod: Tivi Magnusson : scr: Mads Egmont Christensen & Lone Hertz

: dir.ph.: Billie August & Alexander Groszynski

with [Tomas Strøbye](#)

with Lone Hertz

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	KBytes	Ω □ ≠ Z ☼	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Source: *International Film Guide 1982*



Mother and son – Lone Hertz and Tomas Strøbye

Source: International Film Guide 1982

International Film Guide 1982 comment:

“An extraordinary documentary is **"TOMAS – A CHILD OUT OF REACH"**, the first film produced by Tivi Magnusson of HTM Films. It studies a famous Danish actress and her 14-year old son, who is psychotic and mentally handicapped. Normally he lives in an institution, but the film shows him in an unusual situation: on a one-week holiday with his mother. The film was an experiment from the outset. How would a retarded boy react to the camera? Could the film awaken interest in spite of its strange and to a certain extent alien subject? As one might expect, the really big audience was hard to capture – but in my view this moving film will eventually find the audience it deserves.”

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "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. The language of mental illness has modified somewhat since 1981. Whether Tomas was clinically “psychotic” or only severely autistic is impossible to guess from the limited description above. Either way, the problems of making emotional contact with deeply disturbed children are the same today as twenty years ago. So far as I’m aware, this has never been seen on British television, and it’s doubtful such a film was seen anywhere in the UK beyond perhaps the National Film Theatre.

See subject index under **DISABLED / HANDICAPPED, DOCUMENTARIES** and **SCANDINAVIA**.