

Valahol Európában

("Somewhere in Europe")

Hungary : 1947 : dir. Géza Radványi :

: 102 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

[László Horváth](#); [Endre Harkányi](#)

Arthur Somlay; Miklós Gábor; Zsuzsa Bánki; György Bárdi

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	□	€	Z	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5486	1½	2	1	615	3	-	-	3	-	No	Unseen



Music hath charms – allegedly

Source: The Moving Picture Boy

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

“On one of their poaching forages, a group of children left homeless by WW2 discover a semi-derelict castle inhabited by an old musician. They’re initially very hostile toward him but gradually he’s able to win their trust, as a result of which, under his influence, they’re able to

begin a new life. This remarkable film, with both neo and socio-realist characteristics, was enthusiastically received at Cannes (1948). It was produced by the Communist Party (with K. Makk and P. Báscó as assistant directors) before nationalisation of the film industry. The director left Hungary shortly after completion of the film. **1½”

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Horváth:

“László (or Láci) was the wiry little "Kuksi" of Geza Radványi's **"SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE"** - a story of homeless orphans living wild and lawless in the aftermath of war. They hole up in a ruined castle, only to find it already tenanted by an elderly and once-famous musician. In return for having his life spared (he's almost lynched on the spot) the old aesthete tames these savage breasts with a crash course in classical music, until tragedy intervenes.

An unlikely and soppy story, but the kids are highly impressive, particularly Endre Harkányi - born 26 Mar 34 - as one of the wildest. (Apart from the unfinished **"UTTÖRÖK"**, this was Harkányi's only film as a child, but he went on to become a well-known actor in Hungary.)

With little Horváth it was the reverse: a whole string of further appearances as a kid, but nothing much afterwards.

The name of László Horváth reappears in later Hungarian films, but it's more or less the Hungarian equivalent of Tommy Jones and is not though to be the former Kuksi."

[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. Also known, I suspect, as **"IRGENDWO IN EUROPA"**. Several fine post-war films addressed the problems of children adrift in the kicked anthill that was Europe, among them **"GERMANA ANNO ZERO"** and **"THE SEARCH"**, both lent verisimilitude by their being shot in the ruins of the bombed out cities. All three titles portrayed orphaned and displaced children as regressing to a quasi-feral state, and if the final message of hope and restoration in this one and Zinnemann's **"THE SEARCH"** rings rather false now (the young hero of **"GERMANA ANNO ZERO"**, racked with guilt and despair, leaps to his death), there was an overriding social need for that message in the late forties. Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Holmstrom guesses László Horváth's age as 6. He appeared again with Endre Harkányi, 14, in the unfinished **"UTTÖRÖK"** ("Young Pioneers") and made another seven films besides, including **"MAGNAS MISKA"** ("Miska the Magnate", 48) and **"EN ES A NAGYAPAM"** ("Me and Grandpa", 54).

See subject index under **EASTERN EUROPE / SOVIET BLOC, FOLLOW THE LEADER (Children's Gangs), MUSIC / YOUNG MUSICIANS, ORPHANS / ADOPTION, REFUGEES / EVACUEES, SPECIAL FRIENDSHIPS** and **WAR**.