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Sweden Filmer 1985

Ake and His World
Åke Og Hans Värld

1984   Color : 99 mins.

Director: Allen Edwall
Producer: Brita Werkmaster, Caisa Westling
Screenplay: Allen Edwall
Cinematography: Jorgen Persson, Rold Lindstrom
Music: Thomas Lindahl
Editing: Lars Hagstrom
**Principal Cast: Martin Lindstrom, Loa Falkman,
    Gunnel Fred, Katja Blomquist, Ulla Sjoblom**
**Production Company: Sandrew Film and Teater
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Ake is the six year old son of loving parents, protected on all sides except for the phantoms of his childhood imagination. A pair of shoes protruding from under a cupboard has him run crying to his mother to tell excitedly about a "real-life monster." Some of the adults in Ake's village are really grotesques that would scare anybody. There is a pretty young woman who in fits of madness in the midst of winter climbs trees and strips and accuses Ake of being The Devil. There is also Ebenholtz, a recluse, who occasionally comes out of his shadows to talk about his murderer-father while he himself does his level best to look like Boris Karloff on an off-day.

Ake is as shy as he is imaginative. He is also an honest little soul, and if he ever does anybody a bad turn or indulges in cowardice, he soon overcomes, if not his fears, at least his shortcomings in displays of subdued bravery. Martin Lindstrom is well-chosen for this difficult role: never brash, never shrill, always pensive and muted, but beautifully alive in every shade of expression. Allan Edwall, who played the dying theater manager in Ingmar Berman's *Fanny and Alexander*, takes a cameo role in his own film.

Keith Keller

US Premiere