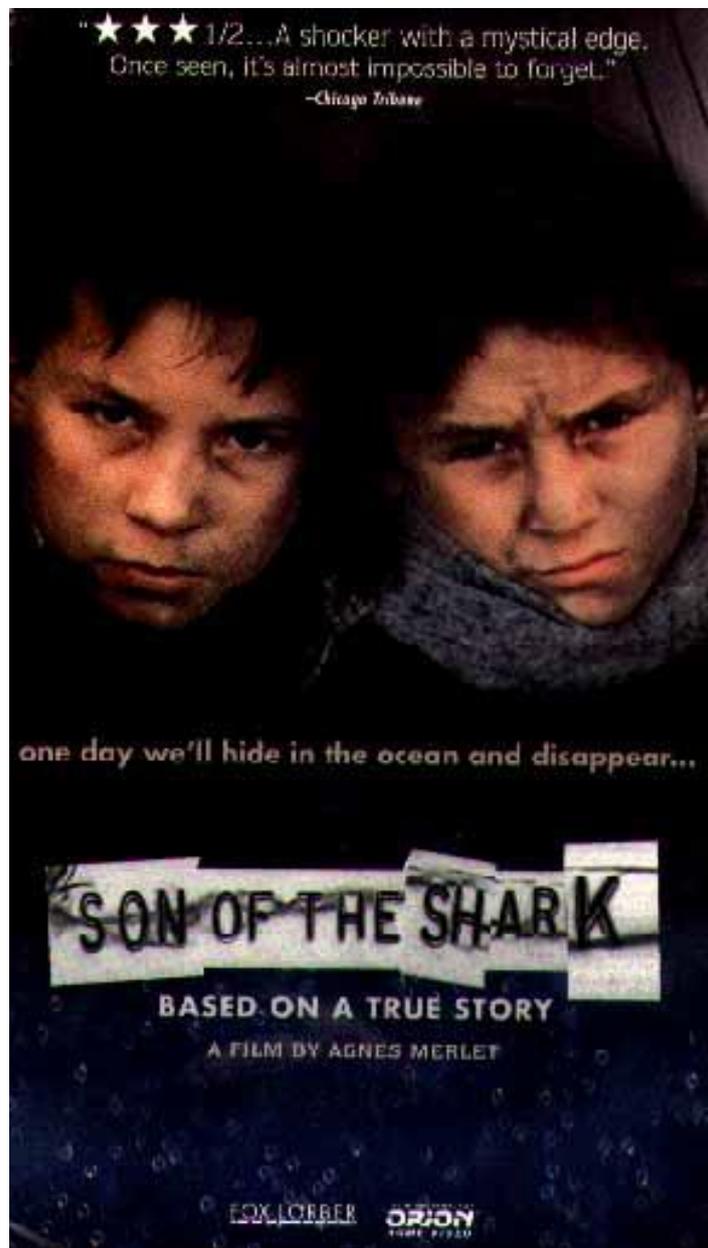


Le Fils du Requin

("Son of the Shark")
 Belgium / France ? : 1993 : dir. Agnes Merlet : : 85 min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
Ludovic Vandendaele; Erick DaSilva; Sandrine Blancke
 Renan Mazeas; Maxime Leroux

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	♀	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
6029	2.5	2	3	555	-	3	-	-	-	No	<i>Unseen</i>



*"Based on a true story" – or – complete invention, to put it another way.
 Source: CVMC website*



An "abused" boy lets the wide world inspect his buttocks. Evidently a symptom of some deep trauma, not a natural expression of boyhood defiance toward the world of adult authority. Source: Movieboys website

"A shocker with a mystical edge. Once seen, it's almost impossible to forget"

– Chicago Tribune

CVMC video retail/rental website review:

"Based on fact story of two abused [*sic*] and neglected brothers, roughly ten and twelve years of age (Ludovic Vandendaele and Erick DaSilva), who one day decide "to hell with the world," start tormenting their town with petty crime and vandalism. Arrested again and again, the system cannot separate the boys, but the strength of their bond is called into question when the eldest develops an interest in a girl. Bleak look at unloved, or is it simply "sociopathic," children. Certainly worth a look...

Rated NR: adult themes [*sic*]; brief nudity; sexual themes; violence; profanity

Language: French (with English subtitles)

Categories: Best Buddies, Boy Films, Little to Preteen, Adolescent, Bullies & Teasing, Child Abuse [*sic*], Coming-of-Age, Drama, First Love, Girl Films, Adolescent

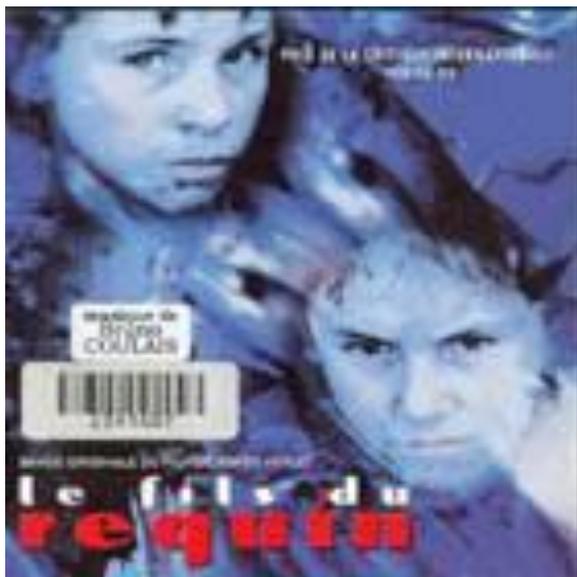
From the film's middle to its end, there are slight tracking distortions to be found on and off which will probably turn into track-outs on older VCR's, which probably means you

should not rent this one unless you have a newer VHS."

Movieboys website comment:

"Troubling drama about the modern urban problem of juvenile delinquents. Two brothers, 10-11 years old, go on a rampage and terrorise a small town. Great scene where the younger one moons his classroom. Won a prize at the Venice Film Festival."

[no listing in "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Critics' Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993" or "Video Movie Guide 1993"]



Source: indeterminate

No further information currently available. Yet another sermon on “child abuse”, then, from yet another woman director, and “based”, as they nearly always claim to be, on actual events. Obviously, such events will be coloured, transfigured or exaggerated as required, to convey whatever impression the director has set out to impart, so these protestations of veracity are self-evidently meaningless. Without seeing the film, or having any information on the case history behind it, further comment is impossible, but we’re entitled to look askance at just one more title in a stampede of 1990s films banging remorselessly on the same political drum.

Nothing else is known of Ludovic Vandendaele or Erick DaSilva, but Sandrine Blancke appeared the same year in “L’OMBRE DU DOUTE” (yes, *another* “child abuse” tale) and made an impact in her earlier film “TOTO CE HEROS” as the protagonist’s elder sister in childhood.

See subject index under **CRUELTY / NEGLECT / MALTREATMENT** (if that is in fact what we’re talking about here) and under **CRIME / DELINQUENCY**, assuming that the boys’ misbehaviour escalates somewhat beyond baring their bottoms at the school gates.