

# Basic Detail Report

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## The actor and director Vittorio De Sica

### sitting in a cinema with his son Christian (far left)

**Date**

1969-1979

**Medium**

gelatin silver print

**Description**

Vittorio De Sica was an established theatre actor, film actor and later a neorealist director, from Lazio, Italy. Together with Cesare Zavattini, he created some of the most celebrated films of the neorealist age, like *Sciuscià* (*Shoeshine*) and *Bicycle Thieves* (released as *The Bicycle Thief* in America), both of which De Sica directed. In 1937 he married the actress Giuditta Rissone, then in 1942 met Spanish actress Maria Mercader and began a relationship with her, divorcing Rissone whom he had had a daughter with, and went on to have two sons with Mercader. Christian De Sica was born in Rome, Italy, the second son of Italian director Vittorio De Sica and Spanish actress María Mercader. With his father's help, he was able to take his first steps in the movie world with such teachers and mentors as Roberto Rossellini (*Blaise Pascal*, 1971), Vittorio De Sica himself (*Una breve vacanza*, 1973), Pupi Avati (*Bordella*, 1976) and Salvatore Samperi (1979 *Liquirizia* and 1981 *Casta e pura*).

**Dimensions**

Overall: 21.5 x 30.3 cm (8 4/8 x 11 7/8 in.)