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Aphonya **(RUSSIAN-COLOR)**

Locarno, Aug. 25.

Sovexport release of Mosfilm production. Features entire cast. Directed by Gueorgy Danelia. Screenplay, Alexander Borodiansky; camera (Sovocolor), Serguei Vronsky; music, Moisey Vienberg. Reviewed at Locarno Film Fest, Aug. 15, '76. Running time, 90 MINS.

Aphonya Leonid Kuravlev
Kolia Evgfueny Leonov
Katia Eugenia Simonova

Aphonya is a plumber who also making extra money by brow-beating his customers. He is self-centered but has a sentimental streak and goes jelly over pretty women though he takes the whole film to recognize that the good little girl who loves him is the one.

All this is stereotyped with the main importance being that it is a Russian film. The anti-hero is always on the carpet before his fellow workers at union meetings but still keeps drinking and leading others astray until chastened by the death of an aunt who brought him up and whom he rarely visited.

Not actually a thaw, but showing a perky, witty knowhow in director Gueorgy Danelia from the more ebullient, almost Latin-tempered Georgian part of Russia. It has some comic drive and is mainly of interest in depicting some aspects of worker discontent, shirking and temperament though he is finally recuperated by society.

Allowing the pic out, no matter how orthodox at the end, may also be a good sign though the coveted Andrei Tarkovski personal pic on his life, "Mirrors," has still not been cleared to go to western fests though all have asked for it this year.

—Mosk.