

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Allein unter frauen</b>
Author(s)	Suzan Ayscough
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1992 Aug 17
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Allein unter frauen (Alone among women), Wortmann, Sönke, 1992

# ALLEIN UNTER FRAUEN

(ALONE AMONG WOMEN)

(GERMAN)

A Scotia Film presentation of KF Kinofilm Sam Waynberg & SWF co-production. Produced by Dietrich Mack. Line producer, Wolfgang Bosken. Directed by Sonke Wortmann. Screenplay, Philipp Weinges. Camera (color), Hans-Jorg Allgeier; editor, Gudrun Bohl; music, Torsten Breuer; costume design, Katharina Von Martius. Reviewed at Famous Players Eaton Cinema, Aug. 8, 1992. (In Just For Laughs Comedy Festival.) Running time: 90 MIN.

With: Thomas Heinze, Jennifer Nitsch, Carin C. Tietze, Meret Becker, Michael Schreiner.

**L**ike its title, "Alone Among Women" is a provocative double-edged sword for both audience and target (a man). Much like previous German art house hit "Men," this comedy cleverly weaves feminism into a heterosexual mating dance. Predictable match should delight bran-and-fiber urbanites seeking politically correct foreign fare.

Unique premise is based on a trio of gorgeous feminists who set a trap for a gum-chewing, leather-clad swine, believing that if they can convert an "arrogant self-centered braggart" into a sensitive man, they've won the battle of the sexes. Unsuspecting of their experiment, unemployed Tom (smoothly played by Thomas Heinze) moves into the career women's basement and reluctantly accepts their job offer as househusband.

Treated as a sex object by sadistic physiotherapist Vio and ignored by battered Leah, sly Tom has his sights set on the feisty, willowy blond electrician Annette (Jennifer Nitsch), who becomes increasingly confused about why she invited the fox into the hen house.

Annette's jealous fit when she finds out about Vio and Tom's basement rendezvous leads to childish pouting and turns this potential lesson into a typical boy-gets-girl scenario. Even Climax is sound and satisfying without pandering to audience expectations.

Filmed on location in Ohio with partial funding from the state's arts council, pic has modest production values; sound quality in particular is annoyingly uneven. But the performances, especially Phillips' willfully hard-hearted grandfather, are first-rate.

Pic is the sort of commendable character-driven drama that regional filmmakers often strive for, but all too rarely pull off this well. — *Joe Leydon*