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Author(s)	Sheila Whitaker
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FRANCE/SWITZERLAND 1987

A Flame in My Heart

Une flamme dans mon coeur

2.30 8.30 NFT2

Director: Alain Tanner

Production Company: Garance/La Sept/Filmograph

Producer: Paolo Branco

Screenplay: Myriam Mézières, Alain Tanner

Photography (B&W): Acacio de Almeida

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Leading Players: Myriam Mézières, Aziz Kabouche, Benoît Régent,

Biana, Jean-Yves Berthelot, André Marcon, Anne Rucki,

Jean-Gabriel Nordman

Running Time: 110 mins

Festival: Cannes

Written by Myriam Mézières, who also stars, Tanner's low-budget film is a tale of sexual obsession. Mercedes is an actress whose devotion to her work is absolute, but whose desire and need for love is just as absolute. She is continually but unsuccessfully attempting to break off from her Arab boyfriend Johnny, and whilst anxiously seeking an alternative to him she picks up a man on the underground. Their love-making (an extremely sensitive and erotic scene) leads to a live-in affair. Pierre, who is an intelligent journalist, is in many ways Mr Right, but his absences abroad do nothing to help the situation. There is a fine portrayal by Mézières of a woman whose life is completely consumed by the obsessive need for love, and audiences will surely be divided between feelings of irritation and at the same time profound sympathy.—*Sheila Whitaker.*

London Film Fest.
1987