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Passion

(SWISS-FRENCH-COLOR)

Cannes, May 25.

Parafrance release of Sara Film, Sonimage, Films A2, Film and Video Productions production. Features entire cast. Written and directed by Jean-Luc Godard; camera (Eastmancolor), Raoul Coutard. Reviewed at Cannes Fest (competing), May 24, '82. Running time: 87 MINS.

With: Hanna Schygulla, Michel Piccoli, Isabelle Huppert, Jerzy Radziwilowicz.

That wunderkind of the old New Wavers, Jean-Luc Godard, after many years out due to his '60s politico films and the '70s spent in a video lab, is back with his second new feature, after "Everyone For Himself," shown here in 1980 which went on to do fairly well.

Now his second, "Passion," again competing, is a return to his talky, quirky films where dialog often vied with commentary. As is usual, both are irritating, but good visual ideas abound if taken at face value.

He managed to get a batch of international names for small roles like German star Hanna Schygulla playing a motel owner dawdling with men much to Frenchman Michel Piccoli's annoyance. There is also the inevitable Isabelle Huppert and the Polish actor from Andrzej Wajda's "Man of Iron," Jerzy Radziwilowicz.

There is a video film being made by the Pole which imitates great paintings and old myths. Everybody has trouble but Godard insists the plan should work as Huppert tries to get back to her job after being sacked.

Godard's visuals are fine as usual but he too is going to essentials and whether it will again grip new audiences is chancy. However, Godard does not care and goes his way, and his name should assure festival chances. —Mosk.

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