

## Document Citation

Title	<b>L'homme en colere</b>
Author(s)	Lenny Borger
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1979 Apr 11
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	L'homme en colère (The angry man), Pinoteau, Claude, 1978

# L'Homme En Colere

(The Angry Man)

(FRENCH-CANADIAN-COLOR)

Paris, March 30.

A United Artists release of a Films Ariane - F.R. 3. (Paris) — Cinevideo (Montreal) co-production. Produced by Alexandre Mnouchkine, Georges Dancigers, Denis Heroux. Stars Lino Ventura, Angie Dickinson. Directed by Claude Pinoteau. Written by Jean-Claude Carriere, Pinoteau; co-adaptor, Charles Israel; camera (Eastmancolor), Jean Boffety; editor, Marie-Josée Yoyotte; art direction, Earl Preston; music, Claude Bolling. Reviewed at Cinema Marignan-Concorde Pathe, Paris, March 27, 1979. Running time: 105 MINS.

Romain .....	Lino Ventura
Karen .....	Angie Dickinson
Julien .....	Laurent Malet
Nancy .....	Hollis McLaren
Pumpelmayer .....	Donald Pleasence
MacKenzie .....	Chris Wiggins

Claude Pinoteau's "L'Homme en colere" is a competent but conventional psychological thriller with the kind of story and craftsmanship that shows up fairly frequently on tv these days. Pinoteau has spoken of his interest in the problem of young, illegal French immigrants in Canada who are sucked into unhealthy environments and dubious jobs. This film, however, is not an enquiry into the situation, which is simply a pretext for the film. With a minimum of rewriting, story could take place in any other country.

Lino Ventura plays a widower who flies to Canada to identify the body of his son, killed in a shoot-out with police. But the corpse is that of a stranger and Ventura decides to find his son himself and convince him to surrender to the police, who suspect him of theft and murder. Their relationship has been poor for years, ever since the death of Ventura's wife in a forest fire. Son holds his father indirectly responsible for the tragedy.

Ventura makes his way through the urban maze frequented by his son, finding some companionship and aid in the person of a waitress (Angie Dickinson) with a prison past. She helps him make contact with his son in face of police surveillance. Underworld is also looking for the young man, who plans to head for California with booty that has fallen into his hands. All the parties converge at the U.S. border where father and son are finally reconciled. A new wife and mother awaits to restore a family environment.

Script is neatly constructed but, wholly predictable. One knows reels in advance that Ventura is going to bloody and be bloodied and one suspects (rightfully) that the stubborn father and equally stubborn son will try to resolve the impasse of their relationship with blows. Bertrand Tavernier made a superior film on a similar theme in his fine first feature, "The Clockmaker."

Still, film is moderately interesting with some fine taut moments and scenes. And, of course, there is Lino Ventura, who in action or immobility is an always fascinating camera subject. He is ably supported by Angie Dickinson, Laurent Malet as the son and Donald Pleasence in one of his typically unpleasant roles.

Film was shot in French and English versions. —*Len.*