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ALAIN TANNER'S

THE MIDDLE OF THE WORLD
(Le Milieu du Monde)

Director.....Alain Tanner
Executive Producers.....Yves Gasser
 & Yves Peyrot
Production Companies.....Action Films
 & Citel Films
Screenplay.....Alain Tanner
 & John Berger
Photography.....Renato Berta
Editor.....Brigitte Sousselier
Sound.....Pierre Gamet
Music.....Patrick Moraz
Set Design.....Serge Etter

LEADING PLAYERS

Adriana.....Olimpia Carlisi
Paul.....Philippe Leotard
Juliet.....Juliet Berto
Owner of Coffee House...Denise Perron
Friend.....Jacques Denis

New York Film Festival 1974
Locarno Film Festival 1974



115 minutes. Color. Switzerland 1974

THE MIDDLE OF THE WORLD, the first color film by Alain Tanner, deals with the extra-marital affair between a young Swiss engineer and an Italian emigrant waitress. The affair founders because physical obsessions are powerless against social differences. Neither a political tract nor a Women's Liberation essay, it sheds much light on both subjects. The title refers to the continental divide between north and south Europe; it is also a metaphor for sex.

ALAIN TANNER was born in Geneva in 1929 and studied economics in his home town, but soon found his interest turning to cinema. After spending a short time in the Swiss Merchant Marines, he began working for the British Film Institute and at the same time participating in the Free Cinema Movement. In 1969 he produced, wrote and directed his first fiction film CHARLES: DEAD OR ALIVE which won the first prize at the 1969 Locarno Film Festival. With his next film, LA SALAMANDRE, Tanner emerged as an internationally famous director. This was followed by LE RETOUR D'AFRIQUE (1973).

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