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Jean-Luc Godard's

BAND OF OUTSIDERS

(1964), from his script,
based on Dolores Hitchen's novel Fool's Gold,
with Anna Karina, Claude
by Andrew Sarris & Tom Allcu

Brasseur, Sami Frey, and Louisa Colpeyn, has been described by the director as Alice in Wonderland meets Franz Kafka. Godard's seventh film was made at a time when he was continually raising the ante in confessional selfexposure, and the aesthetic strain was beginning to reduce his power to generate

emotional responses in his audience. Fortunately, in Band of Outsiders, the mind is still flowing through the heart, and the characters are alive in a conventional melodrama embroided with unconventional freedom of gesture, movement, rhythm, mood, and point of view. Compared to the best American genre films and the best European art films, the movie is both clumsy and frivolous; nonetheless, Godard's camera remains a deadly efficient scalpel at probing the eternal truths beneath the most banal conventions of storytelling. (Cofeature: Godard's Breathless) Cinealso Juesday.