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Buried Treasures



Le Milieu Du Monde (The Middle Of The World)

Switzerland 1974

Director: Alain Tanner

Production Company: Citel Films/SSR/Action Films

Producers: Yves Gasser, Yves Peyrot

Screenplay: Alain Tanner, John Berger

Cinematography: Renato Berta

Editor: Brigitte Sousselier

Sound: Pierre Gamet

Music: Patrick Moraz

Principal Cast: Olympia Carlisi, Philippe Léotard,
Juliet Berto, Denise Perron, Jacques Denis

115 minutes

Alain Tanner's tender, emotionally delicate movie is about that mysterious boundary which seems to set men and women apart. It is not the usual story of an illicit love affair even though the husband (Philippe Léotard) does the straying, succumbing to an overwhelming sexual attraction. What is remarkable about this Swiss movie, which also features Olympia Carlisi as the Italian waitress who shatters the hero's natural reserve, is that it is so full of astute observations about the way men and women think and the way sexual relationships evolve and deteriorate. Tanner, in his gentle way, tells us more about human passion and desire than almost any other filmmaker since Ingmar Bergman.