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UN'ALTRA VITA (ANOTHER LIFE) (ITALIAN)

A DARC release of an Erre Produzioni production in association with RAI-2. Produced by Angelo Rizzoli. Directed by Carlo Mazzacurati. Screenplay, Franco Bernini, Mazzacurati. Camera (color), Alessandro Pesci; editor, Mirco Garrone; art direction, Massimo Spano; music, Ralph Towner. Reviewed at Venice Film Festival, Sept. 5, 1992. (In Mifed market.) Running time: 95 MIN. Saverio Silvio Orlando Alia Adrianna Biedrzynska Mauro Claudio Amendola Vanni....... Giorgio Tirabassi Rita Antonella Ponziani Remo Antonella Fassari Luisanna Monica Scattini

An Italian dentist falls unhappily in love with a Russian immigrant girl in "Another Life," a light, sensitive, bittersweet story by Carlo Mazzacurati. He turns the loneliness of city life into a quiet but ontarget film, graced by popular Italo comic Silvio Orlando, who should assure pic a good run domestically. Film is a strong candidate for specialized release offshore this season.

Orlando plays a nice-guy dentist living alone in a big apartment his parents left him. When Adrianna Biedrzynska turns up on his doorstep, beaten up and missing a tooth, the dentist works all night making her a new one.

They live together platonically until the girl leaves, mainly to keep from hurting the lovesick dentist's feelings. He can't forget her, and his search for her brings him into amusing contact with local hoods led by Claudio Amendola, who's also in love with Biedrzynska and looking for her.

Despite a bleak conclusion, pic is constructed with an intelligently light-hearted spirit. Scripter Franco Bernini keeps the screenplay alive with plenty of soft, offbeat irony.

Orlando is sympathetic if onenote, passively letting himself go with the flow as he wistfully longs for emotional fulfillment. Since his faint Neapolitan accent is carefully noted in the film, one wonders about the casting of fine

VARCUETT, 10-26.82

Polish actress Biedrzynska, who looks and sounds Russian only by suspension of belief. Her talent at portraying a complex, optimistic survivor of the East, however, amply makes up for the wrong nationality.

Alessandro Pesci's cool camerawork unveils a little-seen side of Rome: high-rise slums on the city outskirts and the unfashionable beach of satellite-city Ostia, where immigrants live in shacks.

— Deborah Young