

Moon In Taurus (SWISS-COLOR)

Zurich, Aug. 29.

Starfilm GmbH Zurich release of an Alive Film Productions GmbH Zurich production. Produced, written and directed by Steff Gruber. Features entire cast. Camera (color), Andy Humphreys; sound, Jim Hawkins; editors, Gruber, Beni Mueller, Daniel Koch; music, "Cordoba" from "Iberia" by Isaacs Albeniz, played by Ruedi Burkhalter; musical advice, Paul Fischli; assistant cameraman, Billy Sherrill. Previewed at the Le Paris, Zurich, Aug. 29, '80. Running time: 100 MINS.

Wanda	Wanda Linn Wester
Jack	Jack Wright
Bonnie	Bonnie T
Steff	Steff Gruber

(English soundtrack)



Wanda Linn Wester and Steff Gruber

"Moon In Taurus," first feature film by a young Swiss filmmaker, Steff Gruber, is an oddity: a Swiss film made entirely in English and filmed in the U.S. (Athens, Ga.), without a story in the usual sense and with a non-pro cast of four playing themselves. In fact, Gruber aimed at coming to grips with his emotional problems, resulting from an unhappy affair with a Georgia girl, by analyzing the reasons for the failure through talks with her and her ex-husband. She had, since the affair with Gruber five years before, been married and divorced.

Obviously, this is a special film for specialized audiences, talky to be sure, but constantly interesting, intelligent and mature. Edited down from 24 hours of filmed material to an acceptable 100 minutes, "Moon" meets professional standards also in Andy Humphreys' effective lensing job. The danger of monotony, always inherent in an excessive amount of dialog, is avoided by visual interceptions of an often symbolic nature.

Gruber wisely resisted the pitfalls of an ego trip by focusing on the girl and her ex-hubby rather than on himself, although it is clear that the discussions he either takes part in or witnesses, are mind-openers to him, too. Not an easy film, but a noteworthy one. —Mezo.