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and the off-screen sounding of a woman's voice uttering elliptic statements could have been dispensed with.

Tanner's caricatures of Swiss life tend to be overdone, although very amusingly so. One scene which would make any former Swiss serviceman laugh is the appearance of the "spiritual defence" officer who takes a record of all those who have destroyed their Army "Little Red Book". Another scene, which must be understood as a caricature, is the arrival in the flat of the two proponents of an Agent for the landlords checking whether the furniture in the flat is worth 18 months' rent.

The film tapers off to a rather lengthy and clumsy ending, with too much soul-searching. Nevertheless, I can only recommend it to Swiss and British readers alike, although the Swiss, especially those from Geneva, will have special pleasure in seeing on the screen a story set in their town.



The three protagonists of "La Salamandre": From left to right—Paul (Jacques Denis), Pierre (Jean-Luc Bideau) and Rosemonde (Bulle Ogier). (Picture by courtesy of Connoisseur Films Ltd).



SWISS FONDUE: AN IDEAL DISH FOR A FORMAL OCCASION