

TIME · OF · OUR · LIVES

A · SEASON · OF · WOMEN'S · FILMS ON · CHANNEL 4

TO · MARK · THE · END · OF · THE
UN · DECADE · FOR · WOMEN

IN · MY · EXPERIENCE

A Tempest Films Production for Channel 4

Barbara Castle Tuesday, 11 June 3.45 pm
Irene Handl Tuesday, 18 June 3.45 pm
Sylvia Scaffardi Tuesday, 25 June 3.45 pm
Dilys Powell Tuesday, 2 July 3.45 pm

Mavis Nicholson interviews four outstanding women, who are well past the usual age of retirement and who remain independent, self-supporting and fully active professionally. They illustrate that older people are amongst the most vivid and valuable personalities that we can encounter.

FEMALE · FOCUS

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4
Introduction by Pamela Armstrong

Legal Limbo[†]

Wednesday, 12 June 4 pm

Divorce is illegal in Ireland. This leads to problems for women and their children when a marriage breaks up.

Polygamy – Senegalese Style[†]

Thursday, 13 June 4 pm

When Senegalese men opt for polygamy it is often left to their co-wives to find a harmonious way of living together.

The Quiet Revolution[†]

Wednesday, 19 June 4 pm

The Japanese work ethic is renowned but for those women who stay at work as well as raising a family the consequences can be

BITTER · WAGES

Bitter Wages

Friday, 14 June 10.30 pm

A documentary which examines the effect that work conditions have on women's health and is concerned with such areas as new technology, physical and chemical hazards, the conditions of homeworkers, stress, low pay and sexual harassment.

WORDS · IN · ACTION

Words in Action

Monday, 1 July 10.45 pm

Featuring five women writers and activists, this documentary reveals the similarities, strength and role of women within political struggle in different countries.

NEW · YORK · FICTIONS

Hotel New York[†]

Monday, 10 June 11 pm

A comedy about a French film-maker who has gone to New York to seek her fortune but finds that her life is overtaken by the transitory nature of life in that city.

Variety[†]

Monday, 17 June 11 pm

Follows Christine's desperate solution to earning a living by selling tickets in a porn cinema and her gradual change of attitude towards pornography.

Committed[†]

Monday, 24 June 11 pm

Film about Frances Farmer, the Hollywood actress of the 30s and 40s. It suggests links between the oppression of women and American anti-Communist attitudes.

Worlds Apart[†]**Thursday, 20 June 4 pm**

Worlds apart in Peru and Czechoslovakia, yet two working women with children share the same pressures and dreams.

Looking Back in Anger[†]**Wednesday, 26 June 4 pm**

Scandinavian countries were among the first to achieve equal status legislation but many women feel attitudes are slow to change and that very little has been achieved over the last decade.

Away from the Sidewalk[†]**Thursday, 27 June 4 pm**

Against a backdrop of the Nigerian political system women are taking the first steps to take an active role in political life.

The Hired Hands[†]**Wednesday, 3 July 4 pm**

Good secretaries in Britain are often seen as too valuable to be promoted which leaves them caught in the 'secretarial trap'.

On Our Own[†]**Thursday, 4 July 4 pm**

Two Canadian women, one widowed and the other divorced, show how they come to terms with the problems experienced by older women who live alone.



CHANNEL FOUR TELEVISION

وقت اور زندگی

TIME OF OUR LIVES

حیاتنا للوقت

Tiempo de Nuestra Vida

时间与生命

JUDY · PUNCHES · BACK**Judy Punches Back****Sunday, 7 July 9.15 pm**

Residents in a battered women's refuge talk about their experiences and how they feel now.

PROMISED · THE · EARTH

An IBT/Diverse series for Channel 4

The Impossible Decade***Thursday, 20 June 8 pm**

Examines the gains and set-backs for women worldwide during the UN Decade which promised to end all forms of discrimination against women.

Seeds of Resistance***Thursday, 27 June 8 pm**

Focuses on the efforts of women's groups in Bolivia and Zimbabwe to gain more power and control over their own lives.

Less Equal Than Others***Thursday, 4 July 8 pm**

Finds out how far conditions have changed for women in Britain during the UN Decade and contrasts the lives of four women who work at Heathrow Airport.

BREAKING · THE · SILENCE**Breaking the Silence****Friday, 28 June 10.30 pm**

Shows the strength and courage of lesbian mothers and their children, and the bigotry and outrageousness of what they are up against.

A free booklet and viewers' notes, including sources of information, are available to accompany these films. To order a copy fill in and send the form below. Send a large stamped (28p) addressed envelope to: TIME OF OUR LIVES, PO Box 4000, London W3 6XJ; Glasgow G12 9JQ; Belfast BT2 7FE

Name Address

Organisation/group (if applicable)

You will be invoiced for postage and packing on multiple orders.

- * you may copy these programmes off-air through
- the free IBT scheme for informal adult education and discussion groups. Information from International Broadcasting Trust, tel: 01-482 2847
 - the Channel Four/Guild scheme. Information from the Guild Organisation, tel: 0733-315315

† you may copy these programmes off-air through the Channel Four/Guild scheme, charge band A. Information from Guild Organisation, tel: 0733-315315

TIME . OF . OUR . LIVES

A . SEASON . OF . WOMEN'S . FILMS . ON . CHANNEL . 4

MONDAY 10 JUNE 11 pm
HOTEL NEW YORK

Director: Jackie Raynal
Zanzibar Productions

A semi-autobiographical film follows the adventures of Lulu, a French film-maker, as she seeks her fortune in the world of New York cultural circles. The ever-changing nature of life in that city gives to the film its sense of the ridiculous in a train of absurd events. 60 mins.

TUESDAY 11 JUNE 3.45 pm
IN MY EXPERIENCE:
Barbara Castle, socialist politician

Director: Sarah Pia Anderson
Producer: Jacky Stoller
A Tempest Films Production for Channel 4

Barbara Castle talks about her years at university and of the influence of her father on her socialist beliefs. She looks back on her experience as minister in two Labour governments. Barbara Castle discloses how her beliefs and principles came more from a commonsense gut reaction than an intellectual analysis. Her career is by no means ended: she still serves as a Euro-MP, a role Barbara Castle pursues with energy and conviction. 45 mins.

WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 4 pm
LEGAL LIMBO

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4
There is a constitutional ban on divorce in Ireland. But marriages do break down. There are no official or reliable figures available but few would disagree that in the Ireland of the 1980s, marital breakdown is becoming increasingly common. This leads to problems for women and their children when a marriage breaks up. 30 mins.

THURSDAY 13 JUNE 4 pm
POLYGAMY – SENEGALESE STYLE

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4

TUESDAY 18 JUNE 3.45 pm
IN MY EXPERIENCE:
Irene Handl, actress and novelist

Director: Sarah Pia Anderson
Producer: Jacky Stoller
A Tempest Films Production for Channel 4

Irene Handl, a much loved and respected actress, tells how she became an actress in her forties. Now in her eighties, she is establishing a reputation as a novelist and talks about her novels and her preference for city life rather than the country. 45 mins



WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 4 pm
THE QUIET REVOLUTION

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4
The Japanese work ethic is renowned, but the pressures of Japanese society continue to place a double burden on women who work and have a family. Many women are forced to choose marriage and family responsibilities over a career. Despite equal rights legislation, basic salaries for women are often between 50 and 60 per cent of salaries for men with similar qualifications. Japanese women still have little or no chance of promotion. Young women who work in a Tokyo department store talk about their attitudes towards their life and work. 30 mins.

THURSDAY 20 JUNE 4 pm
WORLDS APART

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4
Working women with children share the same

WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 4 pm
LOOKING BACK IN ANGER

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4.

The equality laws in Sweden and Norway are highly advanced, and both countries have an ombudsman for equal rights and concrete plans for action to achieve equality. Schools are obliged to work for equality and stimulate children to go beyond stereotyped sex roles ascribed to occupations. But education does not always work out quite this way, and attitudes cannot always be changed simply by passing new legislation. Many young people continue to think of their future roles in the same way as their parents and grandparents before them. 30 mins.

THURSDAY 27 JUNE 4 pm
AWAY FROM THE SIDEWALK

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4.

Equality for Nigerian women is enshrined in the Constitution. Women's votes constitute 55 per cent of all votes cast at elections. Women are learning to be assertive and active participants in politics and matters affecting their country's needs and aspirations. 30 mins.



THURSDAY 27 JUNE 8 pm
SEEDS OF RESISTANCE*

Producer/Director: Juliet Miller
An IBT/Diverse production for Channel 4.
This film follows the experiences of women in

TUESDAY 2 JULY 3.45 pm
IN MY EXPERIENCE:
Dilys Powell, film critic and writer

Director: Sarah Pia Anderson
Producer: Jacky Stoller
A Tempest Films Production for Channel 4.

With fifty years experience as a film critic, Dilys Powell is probably the longest serving and certainly one of the most outstanding of film critics in Britain. In this interview Dilys Powell recalls a happy and fulfilling life in which she has also written four books on Greece, for which she has a great passion. A fore-runner of women at the University of Oxford in the 1920s, Dilys Powell expresses how grateful she is to her parents for allowing her to go to university and for the freedom to choose her career. 45 mins

WEDNESDAY 3 JULY 4 pm
THE HIRED HANDS

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4.

Ten million women go to work every day in Britain. One in three works in an office as typist, receptionist, clerk or secretary. Although there is much talk of an office revolution, with the introduction of micro chip technology, everyday life for today's secretary remains much as it always has been – that of an 'office wife'. 30 mins.

THURSDAY 4 JULY 4 pm
ON OUR OWN

A UN/Broadside Production for Channel 4.

Studies in Canada show that many women will have lived on their own at some point in their life, whether they marry or not. Many, especially those over 50, do not have the preparation or means to support themselves financially in old age. Those aged between 45 and 65 who become widowed, divorced or separated may experience instant poverty. Two women show how they come to terms with the problems experienced by older women living alone. 30 mins.

More and more women are choosing to become a man's second or third wife. There are advantages and disadvantages in choosing polygamy. 30 mins.

FRIDAY 14 JUNE 10.30 pm
BITTER WAGES

Director: Audrey Droisen
Producers: Caroline Spry and Audrey Droisen
Iriscope Productions

Bitter Wages is a documentary which examines the effect that work conditions have on our health. This film, which looks at women in paid work, is concerned with such areas as the dangers of new technology, physical and chemical hazards, the conditions of homeworkers, stress, low pay, racism, the treatment of migrant workers, job segregation and sexual harassment at work. It suggests what can be done to fight these conditions and gives some amusing and insightful examples of what women have already done. 45 mins.



MONDAY 17 JUNE 11 pm
VARIETY

Director: Bette Gordon
Producer: Renee Shafransky
A ZDF/Channel 4 Production

The film questions the relationship between women and sexual fantasy and suggests that pornography can be self-expressive for women rather than oppressive. Christine, desperate to earn some money, takes a job selling tickets in a porn cinema and becomes fascinated by both the pornography and by one of its consumers, a middle-aged businessman. Her role changes from potential victim/object to voyeur/subject in the pornographic process and by the end of the film she is watching the movies without fear of (male) disapproval. 100 mins.

Peru and Czechoslovakia. It is estimated that in Peru there are 300,000 street vendors and that over half are women. Many women street vendors sleep and live on the street with their children. They have a long working day but with very few jobs available they are forced to take up the work in order to survive. They hope for a better future for their daughters. 30 mins.

THURSDAY 20 JUNE 8 pm
THE IMPOSSIBLE DECADE

Director: Juliet Miller
Producer: Anna Coote
An IBT/Diverse Production for Channel 4

The UN Decade for Women aimed to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women. The Decade seemed to promise women the earth. This film reveals the extent of the changes required to achieve equality for women.

Women the world over have a dual role — working to look after their family and working to produce. Nowhere are they rewarded adequately for their work in production or reproduction.

Women worldwide have learned how little laws can achieve. The Impossible Decade concludes that the only changes that really improve things for women are those that increase their power. 50 mins.

MONDAY 24 JUNE 11 pm
COMMITTED

Producer/Directors: Lynne Tillman and Sheila McLaughlin

Committed follows the story of Frances Farmer, the Hollywood actress of the thirties and forties, in a politically mature film which suggests links between the oppression of women and American paranoia about Communism. Inevitably, at this time, Frances's problems are pronounced by the male psychiatrists as being caused by her 'resentment of her role as a woman in society'. 85 mins.

TUESDAY 25 JUNE 3.45 pm
IN MY EXPERIENCE:

Sylvia Scaffardi, one of the founders of the National Council for Civil Liberties

Director: Sarah Pia Anderson
Producer: Jacky Stoller

A Tempest Films Production for Channel 4. Sylvia Scaffardi, a founder of the National Council for Civil Liberties, talks about her early life in Brazil and her continuing concern about the erosion of civil liberties, which was first awakened by the rise of fascism in Europe in the 1930s. 45 mins.

against harsh economic realities. Faced with lifelong economic hardship, now aggravated by inflation and general strikes, Bolivian women are forming their own strong pressure groups, providing mutual support in taking political action and concrete steps to improve their situation. Women in Zimbabwe were fully involved in the liberation war which promised gains for women too. Five years later rural women's groups are challenging established structures, and organising themselves in co-operatives to increase their own income and strengthen their power over agricultural decisions. 50 mins.

FRIDAY 28 JUNE 10.30 pm
BREAKING THE SILENCE

Producer/Director: Melanie Chait
A Lusitania Films Production.

Many thousands of mothers in Britain are lesbians and many lesbians are now mothers. Under current British law lesbian mothers risk losing their children, their lovers or their work. The women in *Breaking the Silence* felt it important to explore some of the relevant facts about custody practices, the personal struggles within the family and how some lesbians are becoming mothers by means other than heterosexual intercourse. What emerges from the film is the strength and courage of all the women involved and the bigotry and outrageousness of what they are up against. 65 mins.

MONDAY 1 JULY 10.45 pm
WORDS IN ACTION

A Pictures of Women Production.
Introduced by Robyn Archer — Australian performer, author and director.

Five well known women activists and writers reveal how, in different cultural and political environments, they have aligned themselves in the struggle over national issues, while refusing to allow the cause of women's liberation to become submerged. Contrary to their usual portrayal in the dominant media, the programme represents black and Third World women as a powerful, positive and articulate force.

Ellen Kuzwayo — South Africa

Faith Bandler — Australia

Nawal El Sadaawi — Egypt

Petra Kelly — West Germany

Toni Cade Bambara — USA

35 mins.

THURSDAY 4 JULY 8 pm
LESS EQUAL THAN OTHERS*

Director: Jenny Hughes
Producer: Anna Coote
An IBT/Diverse Production for Channel 4.

The last ten years have witnessed considerable changes affecting women. The Sex Discrimination Act, Equal Pay Act and other laws legitimised women's claims for equal rights. But laws can also be an excuse for subsequent inaction when the economic and political climate is unfavourable. This film focuses on four women of different ethnic origins and social class who work at Heathrow Airport. The women tell us how they think things have changed for them during the decade. 50 mins.



SUNDAY 7 JULY 9.15 pm
JUDY PUNCHES BACK

Brent Women's Aid.

Residents in a battered women's refuge in Brent, London, talk about the experiences which led them to abandon their homes and about how they feel in their new situation. 45 mins.

Check daily press for final details.

*These films will be available for purchase or hire from:

Cinema of Women, 27 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1R 0AT. Tel: 01-251 4978.

The Other Cinema, 79 Wardour Street, London W1V 3TH. Tel: 01-734 8508.

Concord Films Council, 201 Felixstowe Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9BJ. Tel: 0473 715754/76012.

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