

10 great lesbian films

Selina Roberstson

Dyketactics (1974)

Director Barbara Hammer

Born in Los Angeles but a New Yorker by choice, [Barbara Hammer](#) is a whole genre unto herself. Her pioneering 1974 short film *Dyketactics*, a four-minute, hippie wonder consisting of frolicking naked women in the countryside, broke new ground for its exploration of lesbian identity, desire and aesthetic. Abdellatif Kechiche, director of last year's sexually sensationalist *Blue Is the Warmest Colour*, might have done better if he had taken a leaf out of Hammer's book. Hammer calls the film her 'lesbian commercial'.

She went on to become one of the brightest and most significant lesbian avant-garde filmmaking voices of the past 40 years, whose work includes over 80 film and video works covering lesbian love and sex, women's spirituality, radical feminist politics, the figure of the goddess, and lesbian/queer film history. Without Barbara there would be no [Born in Flames](#) (1983), no [Desert Hearts](#) (1985), no [Go](#)

Fish (1994). Her influence can also be seen in the new film [Concussion](#), screening at BFI Flare.