

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

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The following is a list of the films in the Divergence Movie Night library. All have been purchased with Public Performance Rights from their producer or distribution company\*. Divergence Movie Night believes in supporting filmmakers for their hard work and presents films with full legal permissions.

\* The film "Meth" is made available on a limited license only allowing it to be aired in groups of up to 25 people.

The DMN archive currently holds 88 films.

## 100% Woman

In 2002, Michelle Dumaresq became the first openly transgendered woman in the world to be named to a national team in any sport. 100% Woman begins as Dumaresq's mountain-bike riding career did, careening down a rocky path to be met with controversy. From some critics comes cautious concern, from others, complete attack. Beginning with her days on the BC race circuit, to the Canada Cup, the national title and finally, a berth at the World Championships, her progress is dogged by constant scrutiny, both from fellow competitors and the media. Dumaresq insists she doesn't race to make a stand, but doesn't shy from being a trailblazer. She grew up in turmoil over her identity and struggled to come to terms with herself as an adult, even with her parents' whole-hearted support. She takes on the mantle of role model because she understands how isolated others like her feel.

*Karen Duthie / 59 min / 2004*

## 533 Statements

Tori Foster took her camera across the country to talk to 20 women about what it's like to be queer where they live. The documentary follows the 22 year-old's journey through all ten provinces, beginning in Newfoundland and ending in British Columbia. Intimate and personal, 533 Statements tells stories about what makes each of us who we are.

*Tori Foster / 70 min / 2006*

## A Different Kind Of Black Man

A powerful look at the ideas and feelings of successful, black gay men on such issues as sexuality, masculinity and their perception of and their role within the black community.

*Sheila J. Wise / 15 min / 2001*

## Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-Gay Movement

Again and again we see it in the news: evangelical ministers who preach against homosexuality and scandalizing themselves when their own homosexuality is revealed. Proponents of so-called "reparative therapy" know it doesn't work. Yet they persist with ever-greater fervor and insist that gay Christians try to change their sexual orientation.

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

**Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-Gay Movement** profiles the journeys of four gay Christians who did everything possible to become heterosexual by following the treatment protocols of the so-called ex-gay ministries. At times heartbreaking, at other times hilarious, the approaches taken by these religious groups range from shock therapy and hypnosis to "gender coaching." Ultimately the "therapy" fails, even for the ministers in charge as they repeatedly scandalize themselves by "relapsing into gayness."

Abomination is a poignant testimony to the healing power of love on the road to self-acceptance. It is also a film about human rights and the fragility of our liberty in an increasingly fundamentalist America.

*Alicia Salzer / 27 min / 2006*

## Affirmations and Anthem

Two short films by celebrated 90s New York filmmaker Marlon T. Riggs. An exploration of Black gay male desires and dreams, and an experimental music video that politicizes the homoeroticism of African-American men.

*Marlon T. Riggs / 19 min / 1990*

## Africa Rising

Every day, six thousand girls from the Horn of Africa to the sub-Saharan nations are subjected to female genital mutilation (FGM). With little more than fierce determination and deep love for their communities, brave African activists are leading a formidable and fearless grassroots movement to end five thousand years of FGM. This extraordinary and powerful film is the first to focus on African solutions to FGM, presenting an insightful look at the frontlines of a quiet revolution taking the continent by storm.

*Paula Heredia / 62 min / 2009*

## Almost There

Almost There is the story of a lesbian couple's move away from Israel and the problems they wish to leave behind. Joelle lived in Tel-Aviv for eleven years but tired of this city wrapped in violence. Sigal, hiding her true sexual identity from her family, needs to distance herself to be able to have a more complete life with her partner. Together they travel through Greece in search of a new home. The couple tape each other throughout their travels, producing a video diary, each expressing her feelings as she observes the other. Their unfurling journey pushes them to question the very heart of their search; essential dilemmas such as: "Where do I belong?" "What is home?" and "How can we be part of our families when we are different from them?"

Almost There presents a couple that dares: dares to change their life, dares to deal with personal fears, dares to search for happiness...and most of all, dares to make a documentary which carefully explores the beauty and difficulties of intimacy, sexual identity, and the complexity of family relationships--all difficult to examine, unless we turn the camera upon ourselves.

*Joelle Alexis & Sigal Yehuda / 52 min / 2003*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## And The March Continues!

And the March Continues! combines documentary and narrative forms to present a history of the lesbian movement in Mexico from its origins to the present. Testimonies from Mexican lesbians and movement leaders give impressions of daily life in their country. A dramatized encounter between Frida Kahlo, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz (acclaimed 17th Century Mexican poet) and modern day Mexican revolutionary, Adelita, is a humorous but poignant acknowledgement of the historical and cultural impact made by these and other Mexican lesbians.

*Guadalupe Olvera San Miguel / 30 min / 1997*

## Annie Sprinkle's Herstory of Porn

The Herstory of Porn is a cult classic porn-art documentary that is both educational and entertaining. It examines important cultural topics including censorship, controversial art, feminism, gender issues and sex education. Based on Annie Sprinkle's touring show, she takes us through a campy and honest history of her pornographic films in a way that is almost Mystery Porn Theatre 3000.

*Annie Sprinkle & Sheila Malone / 69 min / 1999*

## BDSM: It's Not What You Think

Confronts stigma and stereotype surrounding kink and fetish play through leading voices within the BDSM community. With intimate interviews and playful vignettes this film targets progressive outsiders and guides them through the minefield of misconceptions and prejudice that kinksters must routinely face.

*Erin Palmquist / 69 min / 2009*

## The Believers

Built around the world's first transgender gospel choir, Transcendence Gospel Choir, The Believers is an unprecedented documentary that shatters assumptions about faith, gender, and religion. It follows their shaky beginnings - a heartwarmingly chaotic, cacophonous group unable to agree on much of anything, arguing over appropriate wardrobe and learning to sing with transitioning voices - through their transformation into the polished, award-winning choir and close-knit family they are today. Revealing the lives of the members and their personal struggles, it deals with how they reconcile their gender identity against a religious belief that changing one's gender goes against the word of God. The intimate personal stories shed light on the complexity of balancing social change, family history, religion and identity.

*Todd Holland / 80 min / 2006*

## Born In A Barn

An intimate and occasionally humorous look into the extraordinary erotic lives of four seemingly ordinary people, BORN IN A BARN takes us deep into the world of ponyplay, a fetish in which enthusiasts role-play as human ponies and handlers. Revealing the complex motives that drive each character to pursue this rare passion and following them as they

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

each confront the questions that being an erotic equine present, BORN IN A BARN is a film about finding an identity in the pursuit of an unconventional desire.

*Elizabeth Elson / 50 min / 2004*

## Breakin' The Glass

Breakin' the Glass examines the promise and power of women's professional basketball through interviews with the founders and players of the American Basketball League. Athletes discuss what it means for women finally to have the opportunity to play professional basketball in the US. Chronicling the rise and fall of the ABL, it provides insight into the politics of professional sports.

*Marla Leech & Dina Maria Munsch / 28 min / 2000*

## Call Me Troy

Profiling the life and times of one of the gay community's most visible and tenacious advocates for change, Rev. Troy Perry, Call Me Troy is a truly inspirational story about a remarkable and dynamic individual whose activism was decades ahead of its time. Rev. Perry is best known as the founder of the first church to recognize the spiritual needs of the gay community. From presidential advisor to outspoken advocate, Perry has been on the front lines leading the charge for equal rights and protections for gay men and lesbians as well as providing a place for all people to worship side by side. This film celebrates his life and his legacy.

*Scott Bloom / 100 min / 2007*

## Casting Pearls

*Andrea James / 7 min / 2007*

## Cerebral Palsy and Sex

Cerebral Palsy is the result of damage to the motor skills section of the brain due to oxygen deprivation that occurs as the baby travels down the birth canal to be born. Most individuals who live with this disability are above average intelligence, thoughtful and sensitive, and also tend to have a higher than normal sex drive. Cerebral Palsy and Sex interviews three people with cerebral palsy who speak frankly about their sexuality, their attitudes, and their experiences with sex. It shows them having sexual relations with their partners and alone. Primarily directed to people with disabilities and those who care for them, it is also a challenge to the able-bodied society to accept difference and alternative standards of sexual attractiveness and capability.

*Linda Feeseey / 25 min / 2003*

## Changing House

Rusty and Chelsea are a transgender lesbian couple who devoted fifteen years to making their Brooklyn home a communal living space for transgender women in need. Their house served a vital and unique community role with its doors always open to newcomers. A crossroads for transgender civil rights organizers, it became home to Stonewall legend

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

Sylvia Rivera in the last years of her life. The couple's dream of a commune quickly met a complicated reality as it became unmanageable. Social workers referred more young transgender women to Rusty and Chelsea than they could accommodate and eventually, the self-made family lost their "Ma" Sylvia. In this intimate film, Rusty, Chelsea and long-time resident Cellia commemorate the house's rich activist history, reflect on the joys and challenges of communal living and discuss the continuing struggle of the transgender community with discrimination and homelessness.

*Z.A. Martohardjono / 18 min / 2009*

## Changing Our Minds

During the 1950's, Dr. Evelyn Hooker undertook ground breaking research that led to a radical discovery: homosexuals were not, by definition, "sick." Dr. Hooker's findings sent shock waves through the psychiatric community and culminated in a major victory for gay rights -- in 1974 the weight of her studies, along with gay activism, forced the American Psychiatric Association to remove homosexuality from its official manual of mental disorders.

*Richard Schmiechen / 75 min / 1991*

## Choosing Children

Choosing Children is a well-crafted exploration of the issues facing lesbians who choose to have children. It offers seldom-seen insights into a revolutionary generation of lesbian mothers.

*Kim Klausner & Debra Chasnoff / 45 min / 1984*

## Chrissy

Breaking records as the most watched documentary on Australian television, where it first aired on World AIDS Day in 1999, Chrissy is an honest and daring film. Ex-runaway and street kid, Chrissy was diagnosed HIV+ at age 18. She did not reveal her sexual orientation or her illness to her family until eight years later. As we follow Chrissy, her mother and three younger sisters for the next year, we are given access to a world one must see to really understand. Beginning at the time Chrissy revealed her HIV+ status to her family, filmmaker, Jacqui North takes us on a personal journey of a family learning about acceptance and love.

*Jacqui North / 52 min / 1999*

## Coming Out Again: Lesbians Speaking Out About Cancer

Coming Out Again: Lesbians Speaking Out About Cancer is a film which delves into some of the real life experiences that lesbians had during their cancer journeys. The film features excerpts from the Lesbians & Cancer Dialogues, which was a staged reading of quotes drawn from a research study which interviewed 26 lesbians diagnosed with breast or gynecological cancer in Ontario.

*Rowan Ramsay / 25 min / 2006*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## Decoding Alan Turing

Alan Turing was a brilliant Mathematician, Logician and Cryptographer. A Cambridge graduate who was fundamental to cracking the Nazi's Enigma Code during WWII, Turing created what is hailed by some as the first modern computer and was a legendary innovator in his field. He was also gay. And he fell victim to the intolerance and legal prosecution of his time felt by all LGBT individuals under the Section 11 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885 in Great Britain. Under this act, homosexuality was considered an extreme mental illness and subject to criminal sanctions. To avoid jail, he went through behaviorial modification hormonal therapy and chemical castration, suffering their side effects - and their consequences.

*Christopher Racster / 17 min / 2008*

## Different Shades of Pink

Different Shades of Pink examines cross-cultural love through the lives of three Sydney couples. James, a white man, and his partner Paul, originally from Singapore, talk about their lives together; Howard, a Chinese man from Malaysia, and his white boyfriend David relive the moment they first met on Lady Jane Beach; and Dan, also a white man, recalls memories of his greatest love, Bruce, an African American man from Los Angeles. Exploring cultural stereotypes, coming out in repressive societies and the tricky navigation of difference, Different Shades of Pink addresses notions of self within the context of loving relationships.

*Pak-Kin Ho & Alexander Ku / 45 min / 2001*

## East / West - Sex and Politics

How does one build a movement for minority rights - especially gay rights - in a country without a democratic tradition? Activism is made all the more difficult by narrow-focus neo-nationalists to Mayor Luzhkov and Prime Minister Putin; from vehement, violent homophobes to the Russian Orthodox Church. East/West gradually reveals the contradictory nature of queer life in Moscow. A thriving gay dance-club scene and a public park where lesbians kibitz and kiss indicate a small subculture that's generally tolerated. But gay bashings and firings without cause are sufficiently prevalent to keep most people in the closet to everyone outside their circle of friends.

*Jochen Hick / 97 min / 2008*

## The End Of Second Class

Traces the debate on same sex marriage in Canada over the past decade up to the passage of same sex marriage on July 20, 2005. The story is told from the perspective of three couples and the lawyers and activists who sought to uphold the Charter Rights of lesbians and gay men against the opposition of the Government of Canada, provincial governments and a coalition of religious opposition. The End of Second Class presents a powerful polemic on an issue of social justice and equality which remains controversial today, and vividly paints the context in which gays and lesbian sought to overcome a history of discrimination and second class status and persuade the most powerful institutions of the

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

state and the courts to affirm their right to equal recognition of their relationships and their right to marry.

*Nancy Nicol / 90 min / 2006*

## Enough Man

9 Transsexual men (FTM) and their partners discuss and disclose their sexualities. Enough Man features health educators, college students, sex workers, activists and artists, and puts the sex back into transsexuality.

*Luke Woodward / 61 min / 2005*

## Eye on the Guy: Alan B. Stone and the Age of Beefcake

Alan B. Stone: astute businessman, quiet suburbanite— and master of the homoerotic pin-up. Eye on the Guy: Alan B. Stone & the Age of Beefcake explores the little-known world of Montreal's physique photography scene— a distinct gay subculture that emerged in the 50s' and 60s'— through the life and work of one of its most creative figures. Operating under the social radar of post-war Canada, Stone produced thousands of images of men—from Montreal bodybuilders to Pacific coast fishermen, from rodeo cowboys to the construction workers who built Expo 67. // Like his American contemporary, physique photographer Bob Mizer, Alan B. Stone was a cultural pioneer. Before the first wave of gay liberation, and long before Calvin Klein's poster boys marched into public view, Stone was taking hundreds of erotic photos of men and running an international mail-order business from his Montreal basement.

*Philip Lewis & Jean-François Monette / 49 min / 2006*

## Fag Hags

Fag Hags is about the unique bonds between women and gay men. Ranging from platonic friendship to romance to unrequited love, the film profiles three couples in the midst of their "queer" love stories. Questions about the limitations of sexual identity and what makes a relationship are brought forward.

*Justine Pimlott / 529 min / 2005*

## The Fall of '55

In the fall of 1955, a gay sex scandal erupted in the unassuming, wholesome and "vice-less" town of Boise, Idaho, as teenage boys who had prostituted themselves to older men began to disclose their dalliances to authorities. Overnight, Boise's homosexual underworld— comprised mostly of married family men—was splashed onto headlines and thrust into the spotlight. What followed was a classic witch-hunt, marked by intense homophobic hysteria, in which the whole town became embroiled. The Fall Of '55 provides unique insights into the pre-Stonewall gay experience as well as 1950s America's struggle with the issue of homosexuality and the prevailing myth that it was a cancer that could be spread to the youth.

*Seth Randal / 82 min / 2006*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## Fight Back, Fight AIDS: 15 Years Of Act Up

James Wentzy's in-your-face Fight Back, Fight AIDS is a compilation of footage documenting the first ACT UP meeting in 1987 on New York City's Wall Street and continues to 2002. Amateur video recording - at the demonstration level and from the private, behind-the-scenes meetings and training - reveals the astonishing camaraderie that united a politically enraged community, regardless of age, race, ethnicity or gender. Recognizable faces among the hundreds of ACT UP activists, timelessly captured over the 15 years of footage, are likely to be moving. Particularly noteworthy is seeing activist and author Vito Russo issue a speech equating AIDS to war then demanding to know how the two landscapes differ. Whether or not your own political views are aligned with ACT UP's today, this infinitely relevant political group taught us to fight back against government complacency, to protest the high cost of pharmaceutical drugs, and to simply ask others, "Where is your rage?"

*James Wentzy / 75 min / 2002*

## Framing Lesbian Fashion

Framing Lesbian Fashion looks at the evolution of lesbian attire and identity-- butch/femme, flannel, androgyny, cross-dressing and drag, queer fluorescent, S/M and leather, lipstick and more. Featuring interviews with Sally Gearhart, JoAnn Loulan, Arlene Stein, Kitty Tsui and others, Framing Lesbian Fashion incorporates archival photos and personal stories to document the sociology and history of lesbian fashion.

*Karen Everett / 60 min / 1992*

## FtF: Female To Femme

Explores femme dyke identities as radical gender practices. A film that envisions more than it documents, FtF denaturalizes gender and pushes for an understanding of femininity as multiple rather than singular, constructed rather than natural. Sexy, funny and controversial, FtF features a host of fabulous femmes, including professors, activists, artists and dancers. FtF makes use of parody and costuming much the way femme does: to create a saucy, indelible impression of a people, politics and gender revolution.

*Kami Chisholm & Elizabeth Stark / 48 min / 2006*

## Gay Sex In The 70s

During the twelve years from the Stonewall Rebellion (1969) to the first reported cases of AIDS (1981) there was a search for a definition of what it meant to be gay. And for the most part, that search required openly exploring a sexuality that for decades had been forbidden.

*Joseph Lovett / 72 min / 2005*

## Gay USA

Arthur Bressan created a gay-America panorama when he commissioned filmmakers throughout the country to record all June 1977 Lesbian and Gay Pride parades and

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

marches. He then cut on-the-street interviews--gay women and men talking about their lovers and how they came out--with the resulting footage, including lesbians marching against housework and drag queens protesting fascism. A revolutionary document. "When the Anita Bryant debacle happened I was hurled into making this political documentary. My naive dream was that if we all saw ourselves in our numbers we would never buy into the guilt trip again. Not from Anita Bryant or from [NYC] Mayor Koch or from Cardinal Cook. Not even from AIDS...."

*Arthur Bressan / 78 min / 1977*

## Georgie Girl

Meet Georgina Beyer, the latest "it" girl of New Zealand politics. A one-time sex worker of Maori descent turned public official, Georgina stunned the world in 1999 by becoming the first transgendered person to hold national office. This unlikely politician grew up on a small Tarankai farm and later became a small-time celebrity on the cabaret circuit in Auckland. With charisma, humor and charm, Beyer unapologetically recounts her fascinating life story, shares how she overcame adversity and discloses the reasons she decided to run for office in a mostly all white, conservative electorate. Incorporating an unbelievable montage of colorful archival images dug up from Georgina's days as an exotic dancer, theatre and television performer, this absorbing documentary breaks down stereotypes and promotes greater understanding of transgendered people.

*Annie Goldson and Peter Wells / 70 min / 2001*

## Graphic Sexual Horror

By the time controversial bondage website Insex.com was shut down by the government, it had 35,000 members. Graphic Sexual Horror takes a peek into the most notorious of "violent porn" websites, with original footage, behind-the-scenes interactions, and interviews with the creator and staff. As the membership grew, so did the pressure to perform. The line between consent and non-consent blurred.

*Anna Lorentzon, Barbara Bell / 86 min / 2009*

## Halbes Leben (Half A Life)

Turkey is the only Islamic country today where you cannot be prosecuted for being gay or lesbian. Homosexuals are only tolerated in Turkey as long as they stay invisible. Coming out bears a great risk. The fear of losing family support, friends and employment keeps the majority of Turkish queers quiet. In Half A Life three gay men, one lesbian, and one transsexual woman talk openly about how they think, what they feel, and how people react to them. The film offers five personal stories of Turkish queers who do not want to hide any longer.

*Claudia Laszczak & Kay Wishoth / 55 min / 2004*

## Hand On The Pulse

Using interviews, photos and archival footage, Hand on the Pulse is the poignant story of Joan Nestle, political and sexual "bad girl."

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

Hand on the Pulse traces Joan's life; finding her community in Greenwich Village in the 1950's, celebrating the body in her writings and in her public readings in her black slip, having a lesbian archives in her home for 25 years, teaching students from colonized backgrounds, participating in the Black civil rights movement as a freedom rider, becoming a feminist, and helping to forge a new lesbian and gay consciousness through grass roots organizing. Now in her 60's, Joan continues to celebrate the body as an aging woman and as a woman with cancer.

Co-founder of the Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York City, Joan has made a significant contribution to our understanding of women's sexuality, gender issues, and the preservation of lesbian history and culture for the last half century.

*Joyce Warshow / 52 min / 2002*

## Harsh Beauty

Existing as they have for centuries, the Eunuchs (or Hijra) are considered the third gender, neither men nor women. Harsh Beauty follows over a period of 3 years the lives of Jyothi, Usha and hira bai, three Eunuchs who live openly as women, and want to be accepted for what they truly believe themselves to be. Set against the vibrant energy of the Indian metropolis, it takes a glance into a society rarely seen and often misunderstood.

*Alessandra Zeka / 54 min / 2005*

## The Heretics

Tracing the influence of the Women's Movement's Second Wave on art and life, The Heretics is the exhilarating inside story of the New York feminist art collective that produced "Heresies: A Feminist Publication on Art and Politics" (1977-92). The geographically dispersed participants revisit how and why they came together and the extraordinary times they shared supporting and exploring women's art and demanding the right to be heard.

*Joan Braderman / 95 min / 2009*

## Homoteens

Five young gays and lesbians in New York City have produced their own vivid and unique autobiographical portraits with the help of videomaker Joan Jubela. Monique talks about her girlfriends and about being a Latina dyke in New York City. Peter, meanwhile, tapes the story of his long-distance relationship with his closeted Canadian athlete boyfriend, Richard. An anonymous 15-year old talks about being hassled in school and shows off his scrapbooks of gay and African-American history. 17-year old community organizer Henry Diaz offers a look at the organization that helped him come out, Youth Force. And Nicky, a 19-year old Afro Caribbean-American lesbian, tells us about her girlfriend, growing up as a Jehovah's Witness and being institutionalized for being a lesbian.

*Joan Jubela / 60 min / 1993*

## I Had an Abortion

Underneath the din of politicians posturing about "life" and "choice" and beyond the shouted slogans about murder and rights, there are real stories of real women who have

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

had abortions. Each year in the US, 1.3 million abortions occur, but the topic is still so stigmatized it's never discussed in polite company. Powerful, poignant, and fiercely honest, *I HAD AN ABORTION* tackles this taboo, featuring 10 women - including famed feminist Gloria Steinem - who candidly describe experiences spanning seven decades, from the years before *Roe v. Wade* to the present day.

Filmmakers Jennifer Baumgardner (author of *Manifesta: Young Women, Feminism, and the Future*) and Gillian Aldrich insightfully document how changing societal pressures have affected women's choices and experiences.

Cutting across age, race, class and religion, the film unfolds personal narratives with intimate interviews, archival footage, family photos and home movies. Arranged chronologically, the stories begin with Florence Rice, now 86, telling without regret about her abortion in the 1930s. Other women speaking out include Marion Banzhaf, who, inspired by both the Miss America protests and the Stonewall rebellion, fundraised on her campus to pay for her abortion, and Robin Ringleka-Kottke, who found herself pregnant as an 18-year-old pro-life Catholic. With heartfelt stories that are never sentimentalized, *I HAD AN ABORTION* personalizes what has become a vicious and abstract debate.

*Gillian Aldrich and Jennifer Baumgardner / 55 min / 2005*

## If She Grows Up Gay

A blue collar African-American mother, talks about her pregnancy and raising her daughter with her lesbian lover.

*Karen (Sloe) Goodman / 23 min / 1983*

## In My Shoes: Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents

In a time when LGBT families are debated and attacked in the media, courts and Congress, from school houses to state houses across the country, five young people who are children of LGBT parents give you a chance to walk in their shoes - to hear their own views on marriage, making change, and what it means to be a family.

*Jen Gilomen and Colage / 31 min / 2005*

## In Sickness and In Health

In 2002, filmmaker Pilar Prassas began following seven couples in their effort to legalize same-sex marriage in the state of New Jersey. Two years into filming, however, plaintiff Marilyn Maneely, mother of five, was diagnosed with the incurable, terminal disease Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. On the day Marilyn passed away, her life partner of 14 years, Diane Marini, was not even allowed to sign her death certificate.

In traditional marriage vows, "til death do us part" is the phrase that follows "in sickness and in health," but to many gay and lesbian Americans, saying these words and enjoying their subsequent rights is not an option. With a tender touch, Prassas delicately balances tragedy and triumph in this film about the civil rights issue of our time—the fight to marry, and care for, the ones we love, in sickness and in health.

*Pilar Prassas / 56 min / 2007*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## Inside Boystown

Inside Boystown is an intimate portrait of the lives of six male prostitutes who work the streets in Vancouver's chic Yaletown district. It blends interviews with the boys with commentary from three support workers who explain the dynamics of male street prostitution: Paul Harris, a street nurse who specializes in working with high risk youth, Sandy Cooke, the executive director of Covenant House Vancouver and Christopher Graham, the director of the Ministry of Children and Families Safe House and Detox programs. The film provides an honest and forthright look at a commonly hidden aspect of contemporary society.

*Louise Walker / 49 min / 2002*

## La Putain De Compile

Born in the early 1960s, the sex workers movement encompasses groups rooted in 5 continents. The organisation of sex workers into a movement has enabled their emergence as subjects of their experiences, of their subjectivities, and of their voices. With short films hailing from Canada, France, USA and India, La Putain De Compile is an eye opening collection that presents alternative discourses and representations about sex work. Be it in traditional media, in feminist groups, or even in our daily lives, there is a need to give space to those most concerned -- sex workers!

This title is comprised of various short films and is often shown with the following trimmed down selection from series:

*various / various min / 2006*

## Last Call At Maud's

Last Call At Maud's chronicles the history of the longest-running lesbian bar in the United States. This venerable San Francisco establishment opened in 1966, when lesbians were still very much in the closet. Maud's flourished throughout the '70s and '80s, enjoying an international reputation as a meeting place for lesbians and their friends, only to be shut down in 1989. Provocative personal stories of coming out in the 50s and 60s, sexual politics and softball are mixed with flashbacks to the Hollywood gay bars of the '40s and the vice raids of the '50s. The vintage photos and personal interviews are an invaluable window into lesbian history.

*Paris Poirier / 77 min / 1993*

## Legacy

A visually and aurally sumptuous exploration of the legacy of slavery on mother/daughter relationships in African Caribbean culture. As they pay tribute to their ancestors, a daughter asks her Caribbean-born mother why she was taught both Afro-Caribbean and European religious traditions. The mother admits that there was conflict about which ideology to teach, so a mix of Cumina, Catholicism and Anglicanism resulted. Though alienated by the beating she suffered as a child, the now-adult daughter describes her mother's understanding when, during college, she told her mother about her sexuality and her mother was lovingly accepting.

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

*Inge Blackman / 17 min / 2006*

## Love Man Love Woman

In this documentary, the filmmaker follows Master Luu Ngoc Duc, one of the most prominent spirit mediums in Hanoi, and his vibrant community through their rituals and everyday life. The film explores how effeminate and gay men in homophobic Vietnam have traditionally found community and expression in the country's popular Mother Goddess Religion, Dao Mau.

*Nguyen Trinh Thi / 53 min / 2007*

## Madame Lauraine's Transsexual Touch

Spend an evening at Madame Lauraine's transsexual whorehouse where you can either eat in or take out! An explicit, sexy and educational film about sexual health, transsexual sex workers and being a respectful John.

*Mirha-Soleil Ross & Viviane-Namaste & Monica Forrester / 34 min / 2001*

## Meth

Meth is a documentary film exploring the rising wave of crystal methamphetamine use within the gay population. It begins as an ecstatic, mind-blowing thrill ride where one finds himself on top of the world with feelings of superhuman power and collegial connectivity. As crystal's power takes hold, however, it begins to call the shots, and the fun takes a turn for darkness.

*Todd Ahlberg / 79 min / 2005*

## Mom's Apple Pie: The Heart of the Lesbian Mothers' Custody Movement

While the beginnings of the LGBT Civil Rights movement was gaining momentum, the 1970s witnessed horrific custody battles for lesbian mothers. Mom's Apple Pie revisits the early tumultuous years of the lesbian custody movement through the stories of five lesbian mothers and their four children. The documentary interviews the sons and daughters who were separated from their mothers, the mothers themselves, and one woman who made the difficult decision to flee with her children. Founders of the Lesbian Rights Project (now the National Center for Lesbian Rights) and the Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund recount the founding of their organizations in response to the bevy of court rulings granting custody to grandparents, fathers and distant relatives based on the belief that lesbians would be unfit parents.

*Jody Laine, Shan Ottey, Shad Reinstein / 60 min / 2006*

## Muxes: Authentic, Intrepid, Seekers of Danger

A lively and surprising portrait of a group of homosexuals who defend their sexual diversity while preserving their identity as Zapotec Indians in the "queer paradise" of Juchitán, Mexico. Muxes focuses on a dozen "intrepid" muxes who, since the mid-70s, have been more

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

aggressive in ensuring that they are a visible part of the daily life of the town rather than an accepted one. In a country where machismo prevails, this is all the more difficult for those that fall "in-between."

*Alejandra Islas / 105 min / 2005*

## No Regret (Non, Je Ne Regrette Rien)

Through music, poetry and quiet, at times, chilling self-disclosure, five sero-positive black gay men speak of their individual confrontation with AIDS, illuminating the difficult journey black men throughout America make in coping with the personal and social devastation of the epidemic. From panic, resignation and silence to the discovery of the redemptive, healing power in being vocal and visible as HIV-positive black gay men, each tells a singular and at the same time familiar story of self-transformation—a story in which a once shameful, unmentionable "affliction" is forged into a tool of personal and communal empowerment.

*Marlon T. Riggs / 38 min / 1992*

## Out At Work

In 1991 Cheryl Summerville received a termination paper stating that she was fired for "failing to demonstrate normal heterosexual values." She was shocked to discover that in 47 American states it was legal to fire workers simply for being homosexual. Out at Work chronicles the dramatic stories of three gay workers, at work and through their collective fight to secure workplace safety, job security and employee benefits for gay and lesbian workers.

*Kelly Anderson & Tami Gold / 56 min / 1996*

## Out In The Heartland

Out in the Heartland explores how Kentucky's recent constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage affects three families and their communities. As momentum pushes the issue from the mega-churches to the ballot box, gay parents begin to fear for their families' safety and future.

*Gretchen Hildebran / 18 min / 2005*

## Outlet

This film tells the personal stories of the teenagers who participate in a support group offered by a Bay Area youth organization called "Outlet." It includes observational footage of their weekly support group and mentoring meetings, giving us a glimpse of the challenges they face at school on a daily basis. Interviews with the support group facilitator, a young gay activist and a transgender teen address the evolution of contemporary queer issues as they are taken on by local middle school and high school students.

*Leigh Iacobucci / 19 min / 2006*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## Politics Of The Heart

Based in Quebec, Politics of the Heart is a moving portrait of lesbian and gay families as well as a powerful story of how they organized out of conditions of violence and discrimination to win recognition of their relationships, families and parenting rights. As a result of their work the Quebec National Assembly voted unanimously to extend the same parenting rights to homoparental families as heterosexual parents, in 2002. Woven into the story is also the landmark case in Quebec that broke the ban against same sex marriage, making Quebec the third province in Canada to recognize equal marriage.

*Nancy Nicol / 68 min / 2005*

## Punch Like A Girl

Captures the burgeoning popularity of women's boxing, a sport on the rise at both the amateur and professional levels. Taking viewers inside the world of women's amateur boxing in Toronto, the program follows several women who throw themselves into the sport in a quest to discover the limits of their physical and emotional strength. Through the eyes of the subjects, viewers discover the sport's mythic appeal and vicariously experience its thrills.

*Maya Gallus and Justine Pimlott / 62 min / 2003*

## Put This On The Map

Fed up with a lack of queer visibility, twenty-six young people in Seattle's eastside suburbs weave together this ground-breaking narrative of shifting identities and a quest for social change. From getting beat-up in a schoolyard to being picked up as a runaway, queer youth exercise courage daily. Put This On The Map is an intimate invitation into their stories of social isolation and violence, fearlessness and liberation. Professing expertise over their experiences, queer youth provide a candid evaluation of their schools, families, and communities and move an audience from self-reflection to action.

*Megan Kennedy & Sid Jordan Peterson / 34 min / 2010*

## Queer China, 'Comrade' China (Zhi Tong Zhi)

A comprehensive historical account of the queer movement in modern China. Queer China, 'Comrade' China documents the changes and developments in LGBT culture that have taken place in China over the last 80 years. Unlike any before, this film explores the historical milestones and ongoing advocacy efforts of the Chinese LGBT community. The film examines how shifting attitudes in law, media and education have transformed queer culture from being an unspeakable taboo to an accepted social identity. The film culminates with the submission of Dr. Li Yinhe's Same-sex Marriage Bill to the Legislative Affairs Commission of the National People's Congress in 2003, a major landmark event in the ongoing struggle for acceptance of queer identity in China.

*Cui Zi'en / 60 min / 2008*

## The Queer Nineties

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

At the beginning of the 1990s lesbians and gays had no recognition of their relationships in law and the Canadian government had still not included non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the Federal Human Rights Act. By the end of the decade, lesbians and gays had won relationship recognition and adoption rights in most jurisdictions in Canada. From the defeat of same-sex relationships recognition in Ontario (1994); to the Surrey School Board ban of three children's books which depicted same-sex parents in B.C. (1997); from the role of ethno-diverse communities and labour within the LGBT movement; to the litigants and lawyers at the forefront of key Charter rights cases (Egan, M. v H., Rosenberg, Chamberlain v the Surrey School Board and Hislop v the Queen) - "the Queer Nineties" takes a look at an amazing decade in the struggle for lesbian and gay equality in Canada.  
*Nancy Nichols / 91 min / 2009*

## Rainbow's End

With the advent of same sex marriage, homosexuals have achieved near-equality in much of Europe. Everything seems rosy, so why should they keep on fighting? Rainbow's End is a revealing and entertaining multinational journey from the center to the borders of Europe. From parades and protests in Warsaw and Krakow to touching personal stories with social, religious and political insights, the film moves from street activism to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. A starting point for any timely and relevant discussion regarding the future of lesbian, gay, bi and transgender people within Europe and throughout the world. At the end of the rainbow, gay and lesbian existence reverberates in an intimate and moving way within a tense field of major political issues: newly established Christian and Islamic fundamentalisms, the curtailing of human rights, issues of asylum and right-wing radicalism. Rainbow's End suggests that there remains a great deal for the LGBT community to accomplish in the new Europe.

*Jochen Hick & Christian Jentzsch / 75 min / 2006*

## Rewriting the Script: Love Letter to Our Families

Rewriting the Script features frank discussions with parents, siblings and extended family members of South Asian gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people. Poignant testimonies are shared not only about the coming out experience but how these families transformed themselves to include their queer children, changing the larger South Asian community in the process. It speaks not only to experiences of South Asians (which includes people originating from the Indian subcontinent), but to other diasporic communities as well.

*various / 46 min / 2001*

## The Salt Mines

The Salt Mines explores the lives of three Latino transsexuals who for years have lived on the streets of Manhattan supporting their drug addictions through sex work.

*Carlos Aparicio & Susana Aikin / 47 min / 1990*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## Screaming Queens: The Riot At Compton's Cafeteria

Tells the little-known story of the first known act of collective, violent resistance to the social oppression of queer people in the United States -- a 1966 riot in San Francisco's impoverished Tenderloin neighbourhood, three years before the famous gay riot at New York's Stonewall Inn.

*Victor Silverman & Susan Stryker / 57 min / 2005*

## She's A Boy I Knew

Vancouver filmmaker Gwen Haworth documents her male-to-female gender transition partially through the voices of her anxious but loving family, best friend, and wife. Finding self-empowerment through self-representation, Haworth's feature debut is a comic, heartbreaking, and uplifting autobiography that focuses on a family whose bonds unexpectedly strengthen as they re-examine their preconceptions of gender and sexuality.

*Gwen Haworth / 70 min / 2007*

## Shinjuku Boys

Introduces three 'onnabes' who live as men, identify in different ways in regards to gender, and work as hosts at the New Marilyn Club in Tokyo. They talk frankly about their transgendered lives, revealing their views about women, sex, and gender. Alternating with these illuminating interviews are fabulous sequences shot inside the club, patronized almost exclusively by heterosexual-identified women who seek them out. This is a remarkable 1995 documentary about the complexity of sexuality, gender roles, identity and sex work in Japan.

*Kim Longinotto & Jano Williams / 54 min / 1995*

## Stand Together

Stand Together is the first comprehensive documentary on the gay liberation movement in Ontario, Canada. It draws together a rich body of documents, images and rarely seen archival footage with dramatizations and interviews to bring to life a story of justice denied and victories won, outrage and humour, celebration and humanity. From the National Security Campaigns in the 1960s (when the RCMP investigated thousands of lesbians and gays working in the public service in Canada), to the Criminal Code Amendments decriminalizing homosexual acts between two consenting adults in 1969. From the 1981 bath raids in Toronto (when 286 men were arrested in raids on four gay baths, the largest mass arrest in Canadian history since the War Measure Act in Quebec) to the 1986 vote to include 'sexual orientation' as a prohibited ground of discrimination in the Ontario Human Right Code.

*Nancy Nicol / 124 min / 2002*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## Still Black - A Portrait of Black Trans Men

Explores the lives of six black transgender men living in the United States. Through the intimate stories of their lives as artists, students, husbands, fathers, lawyers, and teachers, the film offers viewers a complex and multi-faceted image of race, sexuality and trans identity.

*Kortney Ryan Ziegler / 77 min / 2008*

## Surviving Friendly Fire

Ten thousand of youths live on the streets of Hollywood. They are runaways, some are “throwaways,” abandoned or forcefully exiled from their families’ homes. About a third of them are gay, lesbian or transgender. In 1992, seventy homeless youths of various racial, cultural and sexual identities registered for a theatre project in the Hollywood shelter where they lived. In 1993, their play, Friendly Fire, was the centerpiece of the prestigious Los Angeles Festival before it toured to high acclaim in high schools throughout the city. Surviving Friendly Fire is a documentary about ten teenagers who endured incredible cruelties and hardships, and found the courage to tell their story.

*Todd Nelson / 60 min / 2000*

## Swimming With Lesbians

Gays and Lesbians don’t grow up immersed in gay history, it is something they must search for. Swimming with Lesbians explores an upstate New York community’s efforts to create an LGBT historic archive. The archive is more than just the proof that the raw material of history exists. It is for many an important acknowledgement of a struggle to be seen, acknowledged and known.

*David B. Marshall / 67 min / 2009*

## Tampon Thieves

*Jorge Lozano / 22 min / 1996*

## Ten More Good Years

Those who “could not take it anymore” some 40 years ago at Compton’s Cafeteria in San Francisco, The Stonewall Inn in New York City, and elsewhere across the United States, are older now and are facing an onslaught of discrimination from their government, social service networks, and even from their own Community. Ten More Good Years introduces remarkable LGBT Elders who share inspiring stories of their lives and Queer History. It is through these stories that the governmental and social injustices quietly reveal themselves, shedding light on what it is now, and what it will be to grow old and Gay in America.

*Michael Jacoby / 71 min / 2007*

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

## Third Antenna: The Radical Nature Of Drag

Examines the unique world of progressive and radical drag kings and queens. Explores issues of gender, physical disability, race and more.

*Freddie Fagula / 90 min / 1999*

## Toilet Training

Toilet Training is a documentary video and collaboration between transgender videomaker Tara Mateik and the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, an organization dedicated to ending poverty and gender identity discrimination.

The video addresses the persistent discrimination, harassment, and violence that people who transgress gender norms face in gender segregated bathrooms. Using the stories of people who have been harassed, arrested or beaten for trying to use bathrooms, Toilet Training focuses on bathroom access in public space, in schools, and at work.

Includes discussion of legal questions of equal access; the health effects associated with "holding it"; and the social consequences of experiencing pervasive discrimination in bathrooms and other gendered spaces. Interviews with lawyers, social workers and activists explore current law and policy, and highlight recent and future policy changes necessary to enable equal bathroom access for all. Concluding with examples of policy change, Toilet Training provides a necessary foundation to public education and organizing to address this overlooked issue.

*Tara Matiek / 30 min / 2003*

## Tongues Untied

Using poetry, personal testimony, rap and performance, Tongues Untied describes the homophobia and racism that confront Black gay men. Shot in 1986, this film now also acts as a historical document of the vibrant black gay scene of the 80s.

*Marlon T. Riggs / 55 min / 1989*

## The Transformation

The Transformation is a video documentary that explores the changes that Ricardo (Sara in The Salt Mines), former homeless prostitute transvestite, undergoes after discovering that he is HIV+ and deciding that he is not going to die on the streets. In order to move out of his street life he accepts help from a group of Born Again Christians who in exchange demand his complete transformation: that of homosexual to heterosexual. Ricardo is taken to Dallas where he tries very hard to transform himself: inside and out. During this process he becomes a Christian and ends up marrying Betty, a woman he meets through the church. Together they try to start a new life away from his past.

Meanwhile the church organizes a trip to New York to "rescue" other transvestite street walkers and invites Ricardo to go along with them and preach his example. Ricardo travels to New York and meets up with his old friends Gigi and Giovanna, both of whom refuse the offer to come back with him to Dallas to be redeemed from their sexuality. They also refuse to believe in the truth of his transformation, and regard it openly as a desperate exercise in survival. Ricardo and the church committee return to Dallas empty handed.

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

As time goes by and Ricardo is affected by the onset of AIDS-related illness, he looks back on his life and reflects that if he could choose all over again he would still want to be a woman.

*Carlos Aparicio & Susan Aikin / 58 min / 1995*

## TRANSforming Healthcare

Members of the transgender community face many barriers when attempting to access health care. Medical providers are not required to learn about transgender people during their schooling, so are often ill prepared to meet the medical needs of this socially and economically vulnerable population. Lack of exposure to transgender people can lead to discomfort when a provider encounters a transgender individual in healthcare settings, often resulting in a failure to successfully and sensitively meet the healthcare needs of the transgender patient. // TRANSforming Healthcare is a short training video designed to give healthcare providers the opportunity to understand the needs of the transgender community. The film shows a diversity of transgender people speaking about their experiences accessing medical care with a focus on concrete advice and best practices toward improving the skills of health care providers.

*Ethan Suniewick / 17 min / 2007*

## Transparent

Pink or blue. Male or Female. Mommy or Daddy. Categories that we all take for granted are broken apart in this documentary about 19 female-to-male transsexuals who have given birth and, in all but a few stories, gone on to raise their biological children. It focuses on its subjects' lives as parents, revealing the diverse ways in which each person reconciles giving birth and being a biological mother with his masculine identity, and through the variety of genders the children use to conceive of their parents.

*Jules Rosskam / 61 min / 2005*

## Two-Spirit People

Two-Spirit People is an overview of historical and contemporary Native American concepts of gender, sexuality and sexual orientation.

*Michel Beauchemin, Lori Levy & Gretchen Vogel / 20 min / 1991*

## Vice And Consent

An intimate look at the individual journeys and lessons learned by people deeply involved in San Francisco's BDSM (Bondage/Discipline, Dominance/Submission, Sado-Masochism) community. Features members of the community revealing the eye-opening uncensored truth about their fascinating yet misunderstood lifestyle.

*Howard Scott Warshaw / 73 min / 2006*

## Voguing: The Message

Voguing: The Message traces the roots of this gay, Black and Latino dance form, which appropriates and plays with poses and images from mainstream fashion. Voguing

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

competitions parody fashion shows and rate the contestants on the basis of movement, appearance and costume. This tape is a pre-Madonna primer that raises questions about race, sex and subcultural style.

*Jack Walworth, David Bronstein & Dorothy Low / 13 min / 1989*

## Voices From The Front

In New York City, a distraught activist confronts the mayor with a story of a friend who languished on a cot in an emergency room hallway for nine days, only to die 48 hours after leaving the hospital. In 1988, thousands of activists hold the Food and Drug Administration under siege, demanding faster drug approval. In 1990, AIDS activists converge on the National Institute of Health, calling for a more equitable clinical trial system and expanded research into new drugs and treatment. *Voices From the Front* makes clear the emotional and political effects of community activism using the voices of those directly engaged.

*Testing the Limits / 90 min / 1991*

## Who's Afraid Of Kathy Acker?

A multi-layered work featuring animation, archival footage and interviews with the likes of William Burroughs, Carolee Schneemann and Richard Hell, *Who's Afraid of Kathy Acker* is a thoughtful and creative film biography/essay on the late outlaw writer and punk icon. A beguiling and intensely contradictory figure, Acker is best known for books which creatively appropriated texts from Great White Male writers, retelling them in an emotionally raw, sexually blunt, and politically questioning female voice.

*Barbara Caspar / 84 min / 2008*

## Yapping Out Loud: Contagious Thoughts from an Unrepentant Whore

On May 1, 2002, transsexual sex worker and performance artist Mirha-Soleil Ross delivered a series of blows in monologue form at anti-prostitution discourses and campaigns. She details the way they often tragically impact on sex workers' conditions and lives. This video combines savvy performance document with hard-hitting animal rights footage to become a manifesto for the freedom of all.

*Mirha-Soleil Ross & Mark Karbusicky / 74 min / 2002*

## The Year of Paper

When San Francisco officials began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples in 2004, the country went to war over a word. How different is a "gay marriage" from a heterosexual one? *The Year of Paper* chronicles the newlywed year of three couples - lesbian, heterosexual and gay- exploring why they got married and how saying "I Do" has changed their relationships. Although each newlywed year takes a different path, these couples deal with similar issues. Family acceptance of their relationship, finances, resolving conflict and starting a family of their own are among the experiences they share. In experiencing their everyday lives, we see the human faces behind this issue. It also

# Divergence Movie Night - Movie List

follows the firestorm of debate that surrounds the very idea of marriage for same-sex couples.

*Kelly Rouse & Nikki Parker / 91 min / 2007*