

# GENDER STUDIES



## **OF MEN AND GOD (DES HOMMES ET DIEUX)**

by Anne Lescot  
and Laurence Magliore  
52 min, 2002

A frank look at a largely unexplored area, *Of Men and Gods* examines the daily existence of several Haitian men who are openly gay. Prevalent, yet still taboo, homosexuality and gay culture are allowed to flourish within the context of Haiti's Vodou religion. As "children of the gods," the men find an explanation for homosexuality, as well as divine protection.



## **OUT OF ORDER**

by Diane Christian  
and Bruce Jackson  
89 min, 1983

In *Out of Order* six former Catholic nuns tell why they entered, and then left, religious life. The former nuns talk about single life and marriage, religion's place in their lives, sex roles, institutional supports and burdens, and work. This film offers insight into female socialization and identity in modern America by probing ideals and realities of womanhood, sex, work and service from a unique perspective.



## **FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES**

by Lindsey Merrison  
88/56 min, 2001

*Friends in High Places* reveals the central role of nats and spirit mediums in alleviating the day-to-day burdens of modern Burmese life. Just as nats exist somewhere on the spectrum between mortals and the divine, the homosexual men who serve as the primary conduits for nat spirits are considered to be neither male nor female.



## **WOMAN BEING**

by Wen-jie Qin  
20 min, 1997

This documentary looks at women's changing attitudes towards beauty and sexuality in contemporary China. Combined with colorful new images of China, this film presents women's honest voices speaking of what they want to be. It examines the changing meaning of being a woman in today's China and poses the question: To what extent are these changes contributing to the empowerment of women?



## **A DARKER SIDE OF FAIR**

by Deepak Leslie  
25 min, 2004

Shedding new light upon issues of global diversity, this documentary focuses on the extent to which a "fairness fetish" has permeated Indian society. In today's India, marriages are decided on the basis of skin color; fair means "lucky" whereas dark means "ugly." With a focus on emotional and psychological impact, this film addresses historical factors that contribute to the pressures on Indian women from a society obsessed with fair skin.



## **POTO MITAN**

by Renee Bergan  
and Mark Schuller  
50 min, 2009

Told through the compelling lives of five courageous Haitian women workers, *Poto Mitan* gives the global economy a human face. Each woman's personal story explains neoliberal globalization, how it is gendered, and how it impacts Haiti. And, while this film offers in-depth understanding of Haiti, its focus on women's subjugation, worker exploitation, poverty, and resistance makes it clear that these are global struggles.

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