

# Liverpool Film Seminar

2010 – 2011 series

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Every year, Liverpool Film Seminar invites experts to deliver a series of talks. Topics vary greatly and the series does not focus on a specific aspect of film. Instead, a range of genres and approaches are celebrated, from historical reach to the internet's impact on cinematic material.

**Professor Yvonne Tasker (University of East Anglia)**

## **A Provocative Presence: Military women in film and visual culture**

This paper explores the military woman as a compelling figure in film and visual culture. Taking examples from the UK and the US it explores some of the ways in which the military woman – a figure who has generated cultural comment and intense political debate at different historical moments – signals wider social preoccupations to do with gender, work and power. By turns celebrated, normalised and demonised, the military woman is a contradictory icon of both modernity and continuity. The paper focuses on examples drawn from WWII while seeking to draw out the contemporary resonance of wartime discourses.

### **Biography:**



Yvonne Tasker is Professor of Film and Television Studies at the University of East Anglia. She is the author and editor of a number of books exploring aspects of gender and popular culture including *Interrogating Postfeminism: gender and the politics of popular culture* (with Diane Negra). Her next book *Soldiers' Stories: military women in cinema and television since WWII* will be published by Duke University press in July.