60 Films

Kathryn Bigelow has been a director, **producer** and **screenwriter** for over forty years. Since 1981, she has made many films in the action film **genre**, often **influenced** by Alfred Hitchcock. In 1987 she made *Near Dark*, which **combines** elements of the western and horror film genres, and the thriller *Point Break* in 1991. It wasn't until 2010, though, that she **achieved** greater **fame**, when she became the first woman to receive an Academy **award** for Best Director for *The Hurt Locker*. However, she has always refused to be called a 'woman **film-maker**'. She has also divided **critics**: some love her films, while others feel the **content** is too violent.


Kathryn Bigelow

GLOSSARY

producer	sb who is in charge of the practical and financial aspects of making a film	**combine**	join two or more things together to form a single one **combination** *n*
screenwriter	a person who writes the *screenplay* for a film: the written words that actors speak, the *script*; and the instructions for how it is to be filmed and acted	**fame**	the state of being famous: ***achieve/win fame***
		award	a prize or money that you give to sb who has done sth very well: *She won the **award** for best actress.*
genre	a particular type of film, art, music, etc. that you can recognise because of its special features	**film-maker**	a person who makes films
		critic	a person who writes about a film, book or play, and says what they think about it
influence	change the way that sb thinks **influence** *n*	**content**	the subject matter of a film, play, book, etc.

SPOTLIGHT *cinema*

A **cinema** [C] is the building where you go to see a film.
- *What's on at the **cinema** this weekend?*

Cinema [U] means films in general; the film industry.
- *the history of French **cinema***
- *Alfonso Cuadrón is a leading figure in Mexican **cinema**.*

1 **Is the word stress the same or different in the pairs of words? Write *S* or *D*. Use the APG to help you. Practise saying the words.**

▶ achieve / critic D
1 critic / award .....
2 film-maker / screenwriter .....
3 influence / cinema .....
4 combine / genre .....
5 content *n* / screenplay .....

2 **Tick the words which describe people.**

▶ film-maker ☑
critic ☐
influence ☐
award ☐
screenwriter ☐
producer ☐
genre ☐
script ☐
screenplay ☐

3 **Complete the sentences.**

▶ I don't go to the cinema very often in summer; I prefer being outdoors.
1 In Brazil, the most popular ..... of films is action films.
2 Hugh Grant had been acting for years before he achieved ..... in *Four Weddings and a Funeral.*
3 I liked the film, but a lot of ..... said it was much too long.
4 I think Almodóvar has ..... young film directors all over the world.
5 *Green Book* won the ..... for Best Film at the Oscars in 2019.
6 The acting was good, but I didn't like the ..... of the film – it was all about war.
7 A romantic comedy is a ..... of humour and a love story.
8 Do you know very much about Russian ..... ?
9 The film ..... wonderful scenery with gentle music.

4 ABOUT YOU **Write about your favourite film, or a film you've seen recently. Give as much detail as possible. Was it popular with the critics? Did it win any awards?**

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LIVEWORKSHEETS