



## Movie Review

‘A Common Thread’ or ‘Les brodeuses’ by Eleonore Faucher & Gaelle Mace, starring Lola Naymark and Ariane Ascaride, Potential Films, 2004, rated M, 85 mins, showing at Electric Shadows cinema, Civic until August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

Recently I went to see this little French film after hearing about it on the TV show ‘At the Movies’. As a tambour embroiderer I was excited to see a film that celebrates this little-known art form and see how the experts do it in real-life. I was not disappointed. A quiet, intensely visual film about quiet and intense people, it not only celebrated the art of embroidery it also affirmed the ability of humanity (and of women especially) to find solace, kindness and compassion through the art of their hands. With stunning visual poems to sequins, thread, fabric, even ancient sewing machines, this story of two women healing each other’s pain with their shared love of embroidery left me feeling deeply moved to be a member of the same select group of artists. I cannot recommend this film enough to those of you who have also quietly longed to live the life of an artist with thread. It’s only enjoying a short release at the cinema here so if you can catch it, please do. Otherwise I thoroughly recommend trying to get the DVD if you can -  
Heather Aspinall