Long before the Bechdel Test codified and implicitly critiqued the failure of films to make female interaction the focal point of narrative activity, Fred Zinnemann’s 1977 *Julia* and Claudia Weill’s 1978 *Girlfriends* both described the difficulty of conceptualizing female affiliation in narrative as well as visual sequences. Melissa Hardie, Associate Professor in the English Department at the University of Sydney, will explore the ways in which women, in historical fact or imaginative revision, can be brought together as girlfriends.