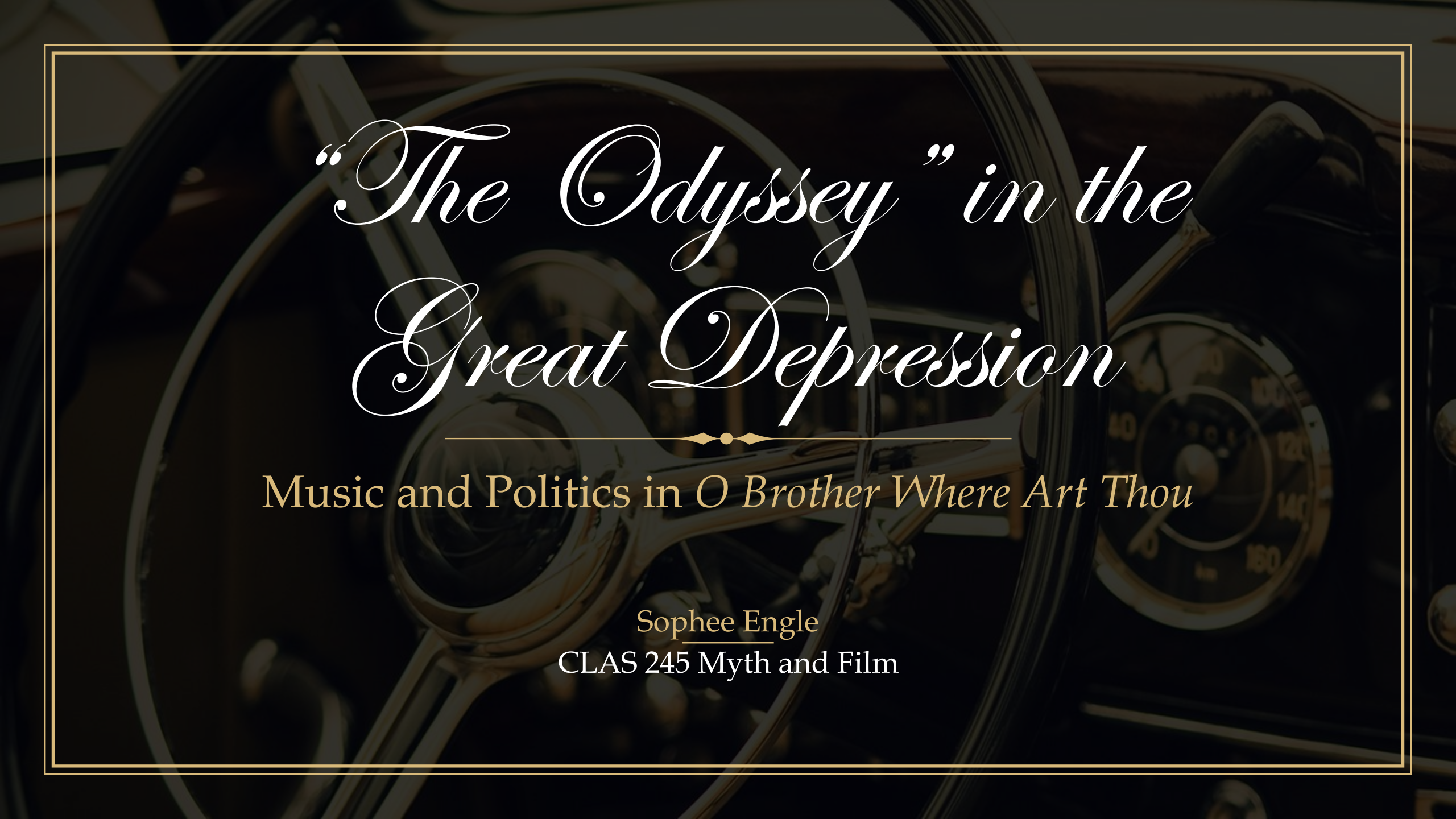




“The Odyssey” in the Great Depression

Music and Politics in O Brother Where Art Thou

Sophee Engle
CLAS 245 Myth and Film



The “Sirens”

The “Cyclops”



Enter, the Blind Radio Man

Who can't tell who they are visually or help find them afterwards (hilarity ensues)



Major Characters

- Ulysses Everett McGill – George Clooney
- Pete Hogwallop – John Turturro
- Delmar O'Donnell – Tim Blake Nelson
- Big Dan Teague – John Goodman
- Penny McGill/Wharvey – Holly Hunter
- Tommy Johnson – Chris Thomas King
- Pappy O'Daniel – Charles Durning
- George Nelson – Michael Badalucco
- Homer Stokes – Wayne Duvall

Image: A poster being sold via Pinterest (oddly enough)



The Soggy Bottom Boys

Chain Gang Runaways on Vocals, Tommy on
Guitar, Blind Producer = Magic

- Race 'in Question', quick recording session and payment, run off. Oblivious to Fame.
- Using newspapers about them as tinder, missing the radio stations playing their song.
- Seeing a music festival and reuniting with Everett's family but not taking part
- Culminating in using their accidental power to discredit Stokes, remove 'threat' in Everett's relationship, and make some money.

How Music Drives the Plot

While not considered a 'movie-musical', music is a throughline that runs underneath the action and ultimately helps resolve many of the film's conflicts

Who are the Mystery Singers?

Fix Family & Government



Enter, Gov. Menelaus 'Pappy' O'Daniel

The old, grouchy incumbent who dismisses the dirty and poor-looking group to talk to his masses via radio



Hope this sticker is being sold ironically



Homer Stokes is a clear reference to *the* Homer, I'm pretty sure :)



- The KKK chapter is LED by the REFORM Candidate
- Not to mention the misappropriation/*everything* with a person with dwarfism
- It's the 1930s, but I really wonder who the bad guys are....
- Somehow the trio get wrapped up with Pappy and Homer at multiple points
- Happy accident of Everett getting his wife back AND keeping the KKK leader from being elected

Politics

As always, both candidates have issues
but wow, this election is rough

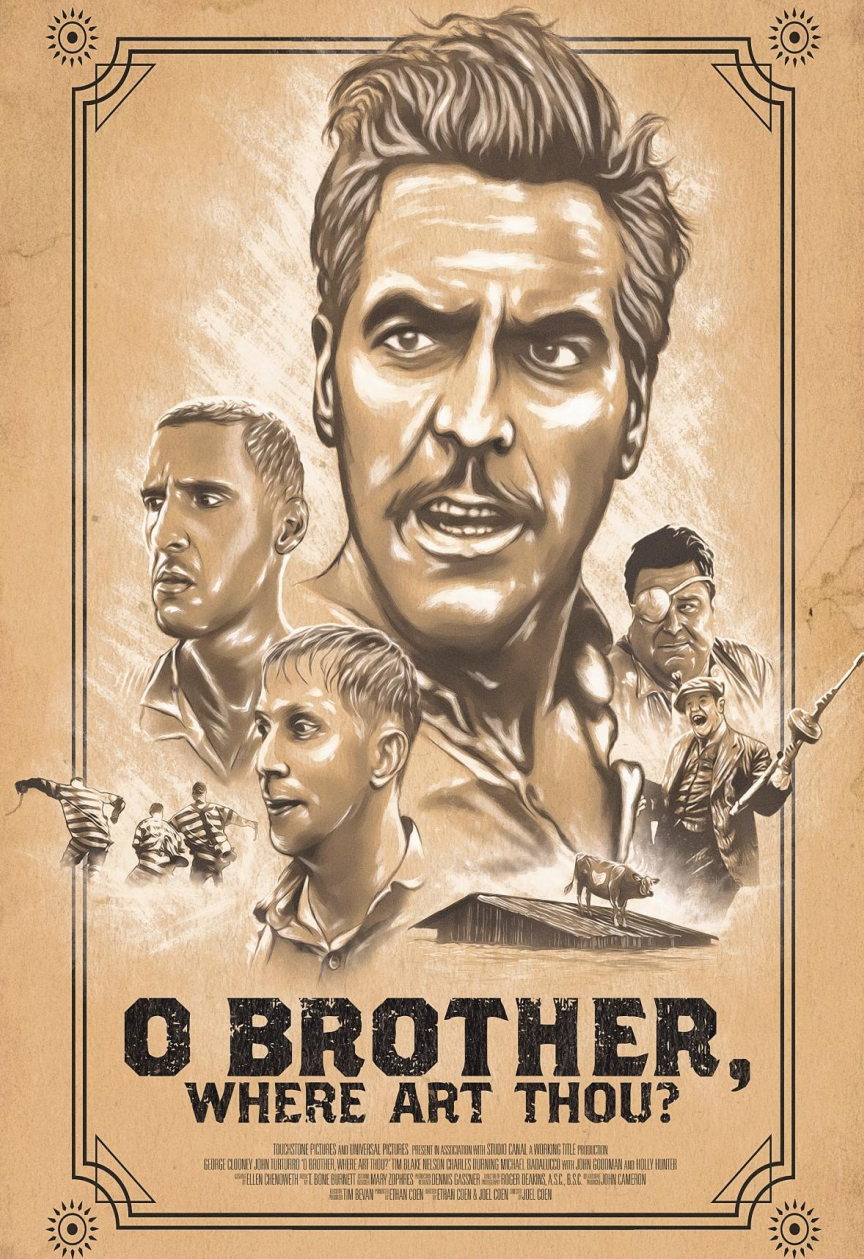
George Clooney John Turturro Tim Blake Nelson mit John Goodman

O Brother, Where Art Thou?

Eine Mississippi - Odyssee

Ein Film von Joel Coen & Ethan Coen

Sie haben zwar einen Plan,
aber keine Ahnung



O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?

TOUCHSTONE PICTURES AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH STUDIO CANAL A WORKING TITLE PRODUCTION
GEORGE CLOONEY JOHN TURTURRO "O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?" TIM BLAKE NELSON CHARLES DURNING MICHAEL BADALUCCO WITH JOHN GOODMAN AND HOLLY HUNTER
CASTING ELLEN CHENOWETH MUSIC T. BONE BURNETT COSTUMES MARY ZOPHRES DECORS DENNIS GASSNER IMAGE ROGER DEAKINS A.S.C. B.S.C. CO-PRODUCER JOHN CAMERON
PRODUCED BY TIM BEVAN DIRECTED BY ETHAN COEN AND JOEL COEN

GEORGE CLOONEY JOHN TURTURRO TIM BLAKE NELSON AVEC JOHN GOODMAN

UNE COMEDIE IRRESISTIBLE



SÉLECTION OFFICIELLE - CANNES 2000

O'BROTHER

UN FILM DE JOEL COEN & ETHAN COEN

UNIVERSAL PICTURES et TOUCHSTONE PICTURES présente en association avec STUDIO CANAL une production WORKING TITLE
GEORGE CLOONEY JOHN TURTURRO "O'BROTHER" TIM BLAKE NELSON CHARLES DURNING MICHAEL BADALUCCO avec JOHN GOODMAN et HOLLY HUNTER
Casting ELLEN CHENOWETH Musique T. BONE BURNETT Costumes MARY ZOPHRES Décors DENNIS GASSNER Image ROGER DEAKINS A.S.C. B.S.C. Coproducteur JOHN CAMERON
Producteurs délégués TIM BEVAN et ERIC FELLNER Produit par ETHAN COEN Ecrit par ETHAN COEN et JOEL COEN Réalisé par JOEL COEN

Works Cited



- *O Brother Where Art Thou*, 2000, film, clips and stills.
- References from *The Odyssey*, by Homer.
- Additional images from Pinterest and Etsy, poster and sticker for sale.

Thank You!