## Final questions

Art & Culture, Artists



The movie Pleasantville directed by Gary Ross which stars Tobey and Reese made me happy and I really liked it. It provides a broad thinking perception of what it really is about and the issues that it comes to address in the current society. I also liked the cinematography and the colorful scenes that were provided during the presentation as well as the symbolism used. The movie begins when the twins David and Jennifer are transported by the super- charged remote to Pleasantville which is a show about perfecting and pleasant life of the 1950s. David, being a great fan of the show adjusts faster but his twin sister, Jennifer is adamant and does not conform to the new life. She is furious because she is conformed to the fashions, behaviors and values of the time.

As a result, she plays havoc and introduces new attitudes and beliefs as well as seduction of the basketball captain Skip. The scenes now begin to change with color and the film gains a new perspective as the society embraces and become contaminated. The cinematography of the film identifies the major theme of the film which is change. The movie touches on many social, political, ideological and religious themes such as race, sexuality, personal freedom, feminism and womens liberation, passion, prejudice and social change. The themes are displayed in a continuous play of events with proper projection.

The symptomatic meaning is identified through the color changes from a black and white setting to a colored setting and the transition from a real world to an unrealistic world. The implicit meaning of the film is displayed by the way people react to change. It denoted that people either embrace, reject or resign to the inevitability of change. While some people are inclined

to the past, this movie helps us to examine the changes that appear in Pleasantville critically by analyzing our attitudes towards change in general. Cinematically, I found the film effective because the plot is continuous and the essence in daily life is applicable.

The scene where Bud helps his mother with the make-up in order to change her skin tone is effective and well displayed in both colored and black and white scenes. The shots are clear and there is a wide angle shot to give way to the house in which they are situated, the distance is well measured and the movement of the camera is both aerial and with a direct view. The montage of this scene is in a traditional sense with a conservative approach to the the customs and based on the need to remain an obedient wife. The acting is well done to display the theme of conservatism in the movie. The mother is married to a supporter of the traditions of Pleasantville and therefore has to display this in the scene.

The films Truman Show, House of Games and Pleasantville all share a philosophical theme of change and fantasy. Fantasy is predominant in many movies as it transports the viewer to a different world of unrealistic events and enhances suspense. Viewers are subjected to criticism and extra thinking of what it would be like in this other phenomena. A sense of eagerness and evaluation with common life is created. 3D movies have a way of raising the emotions and feelings of the audience.