



## From puppet candidate to the elected embodiment of the United States

A myth of democratic values in electoral film (1932–2010)

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Abstract: American films present the myth of the electoral candidate, who is first portrayed as a puppet, and who ultimately comes to symbolize the founding values of the nation. Cinema thus proposes that society creates effective antibodies against its own diseases. Furthermore, this metamorphosis testifies to a disturbing fascination with the man chosen by providence. Finally, the movement from puppet candidate to elected representative recalls the partly theological principles of the mystery of incarnation.

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