

Solving *The Odyssey* Souvenir Popcorn Bucket Problem

Chosie's readers probably could guess what had put him in such a good mood when they read his over-the-top six (6) star review of Christopher Nolan's *The Odyssey*.

They know what can put him in such a foul mood that he can pan a great movie, or feeling so much *bonne humeur* or *bonhomie* that he will give five stars to a piece of *merde*.

I am speaking, of course, about the impact a really good souvenir popcorn bucket makes on the devoted cinephile or cineaste, both of which Chosie is happy to confess he is.

In fact, if one has access to the back files of *Cahiers du cinema*, he will find, by actual count, 61% of the words devoted to Godard's *oeuvre* are appreciations of the *magnifique* (magnificent) souvenir popcorn buckets that were on sale at the concession stand during the first screening of films like *Breathless*, and only 39% to the movies themselves.

Likewise, the French veneration for Jerry Lewis was due more to the souvenir popcorn buckets for *The Nutty Professor* and *The Geisha Boy* than for the genius of "Le Roi du Crazy."

In fact the souvenir popcorn bucket for *The Geisha Boy* is the "star" of the Louvre's "Jerry Lewis Souvenir Popcorn Bucket Collection," and is the third most photographed object in the museum, right after the Venus di Milo, whose popcorn bucket coincidentally also has no arms, just like the statue, whose arms were pilfered by a gang of crooked guards led by the aged wife (who may be a man) of President Macarony.

The fact is that Chosie was so excited about getting the souvenir popcorn bucket for Nolan's *The Odyssey* that he could hardly sleep for weeks and even had spells of bed-wetting. Remember the fiasco of *Dune 2*, when the kids at the concessions stands ran off with the Sandworm Popcorn Buckets and sold them at extortionate markups on eBay, which led to Chosie's ferocious denunciation of what he would privately admit was a pretty good movie.

Chosie was reassured when he heard Christopher Nolan had held back the premiere of *The Odyssey* for two months while supply chain breakdowns holding up production of the popcorn buckets by the Yarrow Livel Lipoff Company® were solved, allowing Nolan to reassure fans that there would be plenty of popcorn buckets for everyone at ALL the concession stands at all the IMAX theaters showing the movie.

What would *The Odyssey* popcorn buckets be like? Chosie was going nuts trying to guess. Would they feature Odysseus and Penelope in a lip lock? How about the Cyclops with the

popcorn coming out of his empty one eye socket? Or Antoninus, the most repulsive suitor, with an arrow through his noggin as a handle to tip his head back and fish out the popcorn through his neck. What would it be? WHAT WOULD IT BE?

And as soon as Chosie saw *The Odyssey's* popcorn buckets he knew the movie was going to make millions, maybe billions. Sales of souvenir popcorn buckets had been propping up Hollywood's finances for a long time. Nolan's *Oppenheimer* would have lost money except for profits from the Mushroom Cloud Atomic Blast Popcorn Buckets.

Likewise, major religions would have gone broke except for the income from the St. Peter's popcorn bucket, the Mormon Tabernacle popcorn bucket and the Big Buddha popcorn bucket.

And once he had seen them he knew *The Odyssey* popcorn buckets were GREAT! As great as the movie! Better than he had hoped and dreamed. Best of all, there was not one (1), but TWO (2) souvenir popcorn buckets. There was the fabulous Trojan horse bucket with a dropdown belly drawer for loading and unloading popcorn, something like the famous kangaroo pouch of the *Dr. Doolittle* popcorn bucket. And it was WATERPROOF so Chosie could play with it in the bathtub.

But what about the other *Odyssey* popcorn bucket? EVEN GREATER! It was an actual scale model of an IMAX camera with *The Odyssey* printed on its side, just below the IMAX



of ALL TIME!



logo. And that telescope looking thingee was actually a LED spotlight (battery included), and when you look through the viewfinder, what do you see? Popcorn? Nope. You see actual scenes from *The Odyssey*. This just might be the greatest popcorn bucket

But you see the problem?

Chosie's collection of souvenir movie popcorn buckets had only one (1) bucket for each movie: *Batman* (the Batmobile Popcorn Bucket), *Peter Pan* (the Crocodile Popcorn Bucket that went tick-tock), *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure* (the phone booth filled with popcorn Popcorn Bucket), yadda yadda yadda.

Having two (2) popcorn buckets for just one (1) movie, *The Odyssey*, would throw off the continuity and symmetry of the collection.

Would he have to go on eBay to try to buy one more souvenir bucket to make a pair for each of his movies? That could run into real money, because some, like the Peter Pan Crocodile Bucket, were REALLY rare, and there was no telling how much a savvy owner would hose Chosie when he saw how much Chosie wanted it.

BUT. . . .

What would keep Chosie from STANDING UP the Trojan Horse bucket in the popcorn container of the IMAX popcorn bucket once he had eaten all the IMAX's popcorn?

Nothing!

He would have created a two-in-one (2-in-1) COMPOSITE Popcorn Bucket.

Is that brilliant or WHAT! And saved a ton of money. And his collection would look BETTER than ever.

And that's exactly what he was gonna do!

"Try and stop me!"