

Cynthia Burkhead: 'I've a feeling we're not in Sunnydale anymore': The Hollywood Lineage of 'Once More with Feeling'

BtVS's "Once More with Feeling" has garnered much scholarly attention in large part because of its treatment of the musical genre (Albright), its treatment of race (Middents), and its linguistic depth (Masson), among others. What the episode also offers is a glimpse into the Hollywood musicals that influenced Whedon's first attempt at fulfilling his dream "of being the next Stephen Sondheim." This presentation will provide a side by side analysis of the musical numbers in "Once More with Feeling" and the big screen numbers Whedon seems to have recalled as he was creating this "all-singing, all-dancing" groundbreaking episode.