

Title	Blue Velvet
Director	David Lynch
Date	1986
Area	Greek Philosophy
Theme	Plato – why be moral?
Plot Summary	Clean-cut college student Jeffrey (Kyle McLachlan) finds a severed ear in a field and enlists the help of high school student Sandie (Laura Dern) to find the ear's owner. In his search he is drawn to the seamy side of town and becomes involved with a nightclub singer, Dorothy (Isabella Rossellini) whose husband and child are being held hostage by the evil Frank (Dennis Hopper).
Key Scenes	
Relevant Text	Sander H. Lee: "The Essence of the Human Experience in David Lynch's Blue Velvet," <i>Inquiries into Values and Ethical Views: The Inaugural Sessions of the International Society for Value Inquiry</i> , 1988, pp. 569-584. Sanders Lee argues that Blue Velvet demonstrates that attempts to impose rationality on nature and ourselves are doomed to failure. The best of us are irresistibly drawn to the degrading, the brutal and violent. Those who are most successful are those who can control their desires, hiding them when it's to their advantage and satisfying them when they can get away with it.