



GRASSROOTS

GRASSROOTS is a character-driven comedy about the power of the people and the virtues of standing up for what you believe in. Against all odds.

True story. Grant Cogswell is a short-tempered, unemployed music critic – an oddball outsider with a predilection for wearing polar bear suits, and a deep love for Seattle. Cogswell thinks he can harness the power of the people to improve his city. And he’s right. Almost.

It’s 2001 -- before Twitter, before the flash mob, before Obama, and Cogswell decides he must do the impossible: run against an incumbent city council member who’s already raised a huge campaign war chest and sewn up all the city’s biggest political endorsements.

Grant dreams of an elegant monorail gliding silently above the city’s wet streets, and he is apoplectic with rage that McIver’s alternate mass transit proposal is a costly idea that would destroy the city’s lower class neighborhoods.

Grant has a snowball’s chance in hell of winning his campaign until he lures recently fired alternative-weekly reporter Phil Campbell to run his campaign. Phil may be a campaign neophyte, but he has the tact that Grant lacks, and frankly he can’t think of anything better to do with his time.

Things start to look really bad until Grant attracts an army of wild-eyed young volunteers to back his unlikely crusade, and the impossible begins to happen.

It’s politics. But not as usual.

FROM STEPHEN GYLLENHAAL

Director, Co-writer

“Grassroots politics. Real politics. Politics of the people. Democracy. That’s what this movie plays with, in an entertaining way. We will be using the film to joyfully and tactically try to get people to run for office: What *Grassroots* is truly about is this upcoming election and beyond, an election that might be one of the most important that the US has experienced. We want to make a change. We hope our movie will help.”



CAST

Jason Biggs (*'American Pie'*, TV's *'Mad Love'*) as *Phil Campbell*

Joel David Moore (*'Avatar,'* *'Dodgeball,'* TV's *'Bones'*) as *Grant Cogswell*

Lauren Ambrose (*'A Dog Year,'* HBO's *'Six Feet Under'*) as *Emily*

Cedric the Entertainer (*'Barbershop,'* *'Madagascar'*) as *Richard McIver*

Cobie Smulders (TV's *'How I Met Your Mother,'* *'The Avengers'*) as *Clair*

Christopher McDonald (*'Happy Gilmore,'* *'Thelma & Louise'*) as *Tripp*

Tom Arnold (*'True Lies,'* TV's *'Roseanne'*) as *Tommy*

Emily Bergl (TV's *'Desperate Housewives,'* *'Southland'*) as *Theresa Glendon*

DC Pierson (*'Mystery Team'* and TV's *'Community'*) as *Wayne*

Todd Stashwick (*'You, Me, and Dupree,'* TV's *'Heroes'*) as *Nick Ricochet*

CREW

Stephen Gyllenhaal, *Co-Writer/Director*

Peggy Rajski, *Producer*

Michael Huffington, *Producer*

Matthew Brady, *Producer*

Peggy Case, *Producer*

Justin Rhodes, *Co-Writer*

Phil Campbell, *Author*

Brent Stiefel, *Executive Producer*

Robin Gurland, *Co-producer/Casting Director*

Kathleen Man Gyllenhaal, *Co-Producer*

John Misner, *Associate Producer*

Neil Mandelberg, *Editor*

Sean Porter, *Director of Photography*

Laurie Hicks, *Production Designer*

Ron Leamon, *Costume Designer*

Nick Urata, *Composer*

David Meinert, *Music Consultant*

Alethia Austin, *Music Supervisor*

Amy Lindsey, *Music Supervisor*

John Richards, *Music Supervisor*

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