Across the Wide Missouri

by Bernard Devoto

The Negotiation of Remembrance in Across the Wide Missouri

This film is set in a period of American history rarely covered in motion pictures. Due to the unique historical context, the film "Across the Wide Missouri" presents a narrative that explores the influence of the fur trade on American society. The story is set during the 1830s, a period marked by significant geopolitical changes and the expansion of the United States.

The film tells the story of the decline of the Rocky Mountain fur trade and the rise of the American West. It highlights the interactions between European traders and Native American tribes, emphasizing the complexities of trade and conflict in the region.

"Across the Wide Missouri" is a historical drama that delves into the lives of characters who are integral to the story's development. The film's narrative is enhanced by the use of Civil War battle music, which serves as a backdrop to the unfolding events.

Filming took place in various locations across Missouri and Arkansas, capturing the rugged outdoor settings that were typical of the time.

The film was directed by William Wellman and features notable performances by Clark Gable, Ricardo Montalban, and other stars. It is a significant work in the annals of American cinema, offering insights into a lesser-known period of the nation's history.

The film's music, "Across the Wide Missouri" New Music for Brombone, is a collection of pieces by Timothy Howe that complement the film's themes and setting.

"Across the Wide Missouri" is a testament to the impact of historical events on shaping the nation's identity, providing a rich tapestry of the challenges and triumphs faced by early American settlers and traders.