Last Voyage of Odysseus. Although there is no extant classical text that treats a “last voyage” of Odysseus, there is a possible clue in the Odyssey, in Tiresias’s prophecy to Odysseus when they meet in the Underworld. The seer tells Odysseus that after killing the suitors he must carry an oar on his shoulder and visit a land where men eat no food mixed with salt; there, after a stranger has taken his oar from him, he is to make a sacrifice to Poseidon. Using this tantalizing kernel of prophecy as well as poetic fancy, many postclassical writers have imaginatively created a hypothetical future for Odysseus.


Takis Sinopoulos, 1917–1979. (Ulysses driven by desire