

= Cafe Disco =

" Cafe Disco " is the twenty @-@ seventh episode of the fifth season of the American comedy television series The Office , and the 99th overall episode of the series . It originally aired on NBC in the United States on May 7 , 2009 . Feeling the office is overworked after the recent reign of Charles Miner , Michael sets up a " cafe disco " in his old Michael Scott Paper Company office . Phyllis injures her back dancing at the cafe disco and bonds with Dwight as he tries to relieve her back . Meanwhile , Jim and Pam plan to elope .

The episode was written by Warren Lieberstein & Halsted Sullivan and directed by Randall Einhorn . Several songs are featured in the episode , including " Car Wash " by Rose Royce , " Cat People " by David Bowie , " Everybody Dance Now " by C + C Music Factory and " Y.M.C.A. " by Village People . The episode received generally positive reviews and , according to Nielsen ratings , was watched by 7 @.@ 71 million viewers during its original broadcast .

= = Plot = =

Michael (Steve Carell) still has his lease on the closet he used as the office space for the Michael Scott Paper Company . Concerned that the office is still tense from the recent management by Dunder Mifflin vice president Charles Miner , Michael decides to convert the closet into a dance hall called Cafe Disco for his employees to socialize , drink coffee and dance . None of the employees care to join him , much to the disappointment of Michael , who plays music through the ventilation system to try tempting them to come .

Phyllis (Phyllis Smith) ultimately gives in and joins Michael ; she stops in to invite her husband Bob Vance (Robert R. Shafer) but his secretary , who resembles Phyllis , tells her Bob is not available , making Phyllis jealous . In Cafe Disco , Phyllis throws out her back after dancing too hard . Dwight (Rainn Wilson) brings her into the conference room and starts giving her a kind of massage he usually gives injured horses . The two spend a long amount of time together and she eventually confides in Dwight that she fears her husband is having an affair with his new secretary , but the two laugh together when Phyllis realizes how ridiculous the idea sounds .

When the rest of the office is told of Phyllis 's injury , they take this as confirmation that the Cafe Disco is a bad idea and reprimand Michael for what happened to Phyllis . Disappointed and angry , Michael instructs Erin (Ellie Kemper) to close up the Cafe Disco . Kelly (Mindy Kaling) comes down with her and the two start dancing after Erin turns on the stereo . This catches the eye of two male employees from Vance Refrigeration , and soon Cafe Disco is full of both Dunder Mifflin employees and non @-@ employees , much to Michael 's delight . Oscar (Oscar Nunez) is mildly baffled that Erin actually invited one of her friends to come , as opposed to being ashamed of the office . Kelly and Andy (Ed Helms) get into a competitive dance @-@ off with each other , and Kevin (Brian Baumgartner) makes out in the corner with his girlfriend Lynne (Lisa K. Wyatt) .

Meanwhile , Jim (John Krasinski) and Pam (Jenna Fischer) have decided to avoid the expense and stress of a wedding and elope to a simple courthouse ceremony in Youngstown , Ohio without letting their co @-@ workers know . Pam comes to work with a wedding dress and Jim picks up flowers in the office parking lot . As they are leaving , they decide to stop in at Cafe Disco , and end up having a lot of fun , making them decide they really want an actual wedding ceremony after all . Phyllis eventually recovers and dances with Bob in the Cafe Disco . Michael tries to encourage Angela (Angela Kinsey) to dance , but she refuses because she doesn 't like " the general spirit of music . " When Angela starts softly shaking her foot to the beat , however , Michael is extremely satisfied with the small victory . At the end of the episode , an extremely nervous Andy gets his ear pierced by Kelly with a pin in the bathroom .

= = Production = =

" Cafe Disco " was written by Warren Lieberstein and Halsted Sullivan and directed by Randall Einhorn . The Office writers Gene Stupnitsky and Lee Eisenberg appear in cameos as Vance

Refrigeration employees who attend the Cafe Disco dance after spotting Kelly and Erin dancing together . Ed Helms , who describes himself as a poor dancer , said he found the dancing scenes very challenging and that he was very sore by the end of the filming .

The official website for The Office included four cut scenes from " Cafe Disco " within a week of its original release . In the first 80 @-@ second clip , Kevin meets Lynne in the elevator , where he tells her she smells like bacon , and says " I love the smell of bacon in the morning . " Later , he invites Lynne to Cafe Disco . In the second , 47 @-@ second clip , Michael insists he will not let the fun stop in the office , and tells the story of his grandfather , who he said was the most fun person until he was changed by his job . In the third , 30 @-@ second clip , Dwight talks to Phyllis about his experience in his high school girl 's softball team , which he was able to join due to the " landmark " Pennsylvania Supreme Court case , " Shute vs. Lackawanna County Board of Education " . In the final , 30 @-@ second @-@ clip , Dwight tells the documentary crew about his hatred for Ohio , the home of his cousin Amel , who he says should be kicked in the " groin area " because he 's a " cheat and a ball hog . "

= = Cultural references = =

The episode features the following songs : " Car Wash " by Rose Royce , " Cat People " by David Bowie , " Gonna Make You Sweat (Everybody Dance Now) " by C + C Music Factory , " Y.M.C.A. " by Village People , " Boy Hangover " written by Lester Lewis , sung by Bonnie McKee , " I 'll Do You Like a Truck " by Geo da Silva , " Climb on Board The Train " by Destination Soul , " Pimpin ' " by Tian & Styliztic , " Whiplash " by Image , and " Various Disgraces " by The Blam .

During their dance competition , Andy does a dance involving a chair from the music video of the Madonna song " Vogue " , and Kelly does a reenactment of the silhouette chair dance from the 1983 romance film Flashdance , which inspired elements of a dance done by actress Vanessa Ferlito in the 2007 Quentin Tarantino film Death Proof . Jim and Pam plan to drive to Youngstown , a city in Mahoning County , Ohio , to get married in a courthouse . Dwight does an impression of actor Jack Nicholson 's character Jack Torrance from the 1980 Stanley Kubrick film The Shining . Michael described the positive office atmosphere to that of Dave & Buster 's , a restaurant and entertainment business . To signify the care @-@ free atmosphere of Cafe Disco , Michael hung on the wall a lei , a Hawaiian flower necklace . When his Cafe Disco idea was initially rejected , Michael said he could understand how it felt to be the tobacco company Philip Morris .

" Cafe Disco " included several callbacks to previous The Office episodes . Michael blames Charles Miner , the new Dunder Mifflin vice president , for the poor atmosphere around the office ; Charles was the antagonist of a recent six @-@ episode story arc revolving around Michael 's defection from Dunder Mifflin to the Michael Scott Paper Company . The office space used for Cafe Disco is the old Michael Scott Paper Company office space previously featured in the episodes " Michael Scott Paper Company " , " Heavy Competition " and " Broke " . The episode features Lynne (Lisa K. Wyatt) as Kevin 's date at the dance ; Lynne was previously introduced in " Blood Drive " , the fifth season 's Valentine 's Day episode , where the two met at an office singles party . Television reviewers also compared the bonding between Dwight and Phyllis in " Cafe Disco " as a throwback to " Crime Aid " , an episode earlier in the season , in which Phyllis tries to console a saddened Dwight in the wake of Andy and Angela 's engagement . Ironically , in preparing to elope with Jim , Pam pins back her hair , partially reverting to her style from earlier seasons , while conversely , Pam lets down her hair in " The Secret " when Kelly asks how Pam will style her hair to wed Roy .

= = Reception = =

In its original American broadcast on May 7 , 2009 , " Cafe Disco " was watched by 7 @.@ 71 million viewers , according to Nielsen ratings , an increase from the previous week . The episode received a 4 @.@ 5 rating / 14 share among viewers aged between 18 and 34 , and a 3 @.@ 8 rating / 11 share among viewers between 18 and 49 . The episode outperformed the 3 @.@ 5 rating / 9 share of CBS ' crime drama series CSI : Crime Scene Investigation in the 18 ? 49 category . The

Office creator Greg Daniels said he was particularly proud of this , especially in light of the series ' upcoming 100th episode , " Company Picnic " ; Daniels said of beating CSI , " Who would have thought that when we aired for the first time ? "

The episode received generally positive reviews . Margaret Lyons of Entertainment Weekly praised the episode , comparing it positively to previous episodes " Casino Night " and " Booze Cruise " : " not as heavy or emotional , certainly , but still a chance to see our Dunderheads in a charming and demonstrative not @-@ quite @-@ work environment . " Lyons also complimented a number of changes in the series the episode seemed to indicate , including shifting allegiances , goodwill where there used to be bad and a possible budding romance between Andy and Kelly . Alan Sepinwall , television journalist with The Star @-@ Ledger , said the episode , " started off seeming like a dumb and pointless idea before gradually revealing itself to be a fun , and even welcome , diversion . " Sepinwall said the episode was not as funny as other recent ones , but that he enjoyed seeing the characters interact this way together , and particularly liked seeing Dwight and Phyllis bond , " even as he treated her like a racehorse " . Josh McAuliffe of The Times @-@ Tribune in Scranton , Pennsylvania , described the episode as " a wacky and wonderful little gem , one of those rare ones where it was just wall @-@ to @-@ wall happy , giddy fun , with not a drop of pathos , except for maybe Michael whining about having to eat lunch by himself . " McAuliffe also said he was glad to see Erin 's " cheerful , appealingly goofy personality " continue to emerge .

Nathin Rabin of The A.V. Club said the episode made him feel " borderline euphoric " , and said of it , " With a light touch the show made an insightful point ? that we need our dance @-@ offs and workday discos and spontaneous expressions of delight . " Travis Fickett of IGN said the episode had " an infectious sense of fun " and felt as if the show producers " just turned the camera on the cast 's wrap party and let it roll a while " . However , Fickett also said very little actually happened in the episode , which he said felt " mostly like filler " between the recently finished Michael Scott Paper Company arc and the following week 's season finale , " Company Picnic " . New York magazine writer Will Leitch also said the episode felt lighter than recent episodes , but he said , " that ? s okay : They ? ve earned a week off , and they sure seem to be having a lot of fun . " He particularly praised the competition between Andy and Kelly , and Michael 's dancing : " There are few funnier dancers than Steve Carell , particularly Steve Carell amped on coffee . " Andy Shaw of TV Fodder said the episode allowed the entire cast to shine and included great chemistry between Phyllis Smith and Rainn Wilson . He also said he was glad to see Ellie Kemper get more screen time , " and not just because she 's Office eye candy . She adds some freshness to the cast , as she 's the only person at Dunder Mifflin right now who doesn 't really know anything about all the drama and backstory , so she just takes Michael and everyone else for face value . " Kelly West of Cinema Blend described " Cafe Disco " as " one of the most random episodes of The Office . "

" Cafe Disco " was voted the seventh highest @-@ rated episode out of 26 from the fifth season , according to an episode poll at the fansite OfficeTally ; the episode was rated 8 @-@ 49 out of 10 .