

Film

Sound

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Volume



**Listen to the
Soundtrack**

Sound

The audio portion of a film including dialogue, music, and effects.

Synchronous Sound

Sound that matches the visual image of a motion picture. For example the sound of a person's voice and the movement of lips match perfectly as if no technology at all were being used to reproduce the experience. This technology allowed the movie industry to shift from silent to sound movies in 1927.

Diegetic and Non Diegetic Sound

- **Sound in films is termed *diegetic* if it is part of the narrative sphere of the film. For instance, if a character in the film is playing a piano, or turns on a CD player, the resulting sound is "diegetic." If, on the other hand, music plays in the background but cannot be heard by the film's characters, it is termed *non-diegetic*.**
- **The score of a film (commonly but erroneously called the "sound track") is "non-diegetic" sound.**
- **In Sunset Boulevard when we enter the mansion eerie organ music is playing, however, this is just the butler Max playing the organ.**

Narration Voice- Over

The term voice-over refers to a production technique where a non-diegetic voice is heard.

The voice-over may be spoken by someone who appears on-screen in other segments or it may be performed by a voice actor.

Voice-over is commonly referred to as "off camera" commentary.

Symbolic

Sound

- **Sound that symbolically comments on the action or supports the narrative.**
- **In Chaplin, when Charlie is told that the love of his life has died, the train he is riding in enters a dark tunnel and the whistle blows, symbolically representing Chaplin's anguish.**
- **In Citizen Kane, When Kane yells at Gettys that he will not be stopped Gettys walks out the door and closes it behind him. Kane's voice is shut off at the moment the door closes and we understand that Kane is being shut down, and his political career is over.**

DIRECT SOUND

The technique of recording sound simultaneously with image, direct sound has become much more feasible since the development of portable tape recorders and self-BLIMPED cameras, ie, cameras that record both images and sound.

Looping / Dubbing

An actor's voice synchronization with lip movements which are not the originally recorded sound. This is used to replace unusable dialogue or recordings, and to prepare films for markets requiring a language translation.

Actual Sound

Sound whose source is an object or person in the scene.

Bridge

A passage linking two scenes either by continuing music across the transition or by beginning the sound (incl. dialogue or music) of the next scene over images of the previous scene (a.k.a. 'sound advance'): a very common phenomenon in contemporary cinema.

Wild Sound

Sound recorded separately from images.

DUB

Recording dialogue in a specially equipped studio after the film has been shot.

To rerecord dialogue in a language other than the original.

THX

THX, named after THX 1138 (George Lucas' first feature film). THX was developed by *Lucasfilm* in the early 1980s. The THX sound system is state of the art in Sound reproduction for the Motion Pictures in Theaters. THX adjusts the sound in a theatre based on outside noise like the project, air conditioning and even sound from outside of the theater.

L U C A S F I L M

THX

DOLBY

A system of recording sound that greatly mutes the background noise inherent in film and tape reproduction.

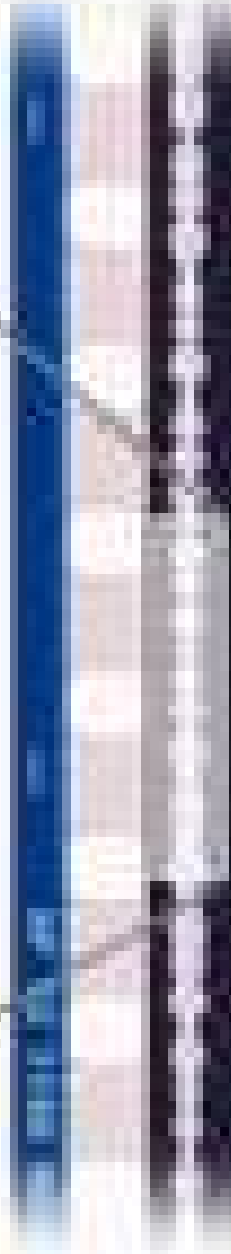
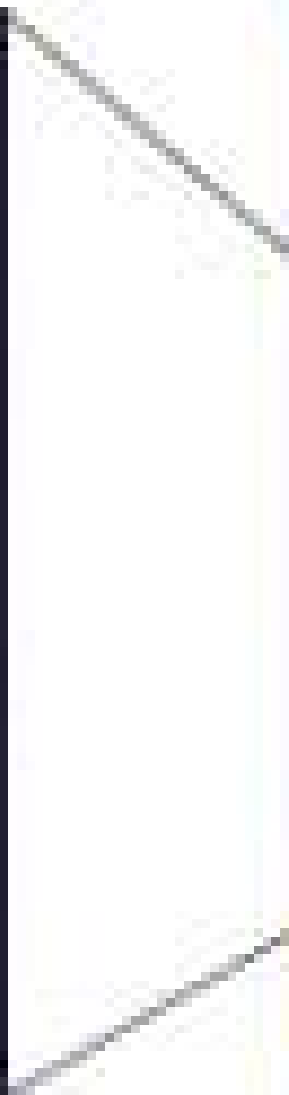
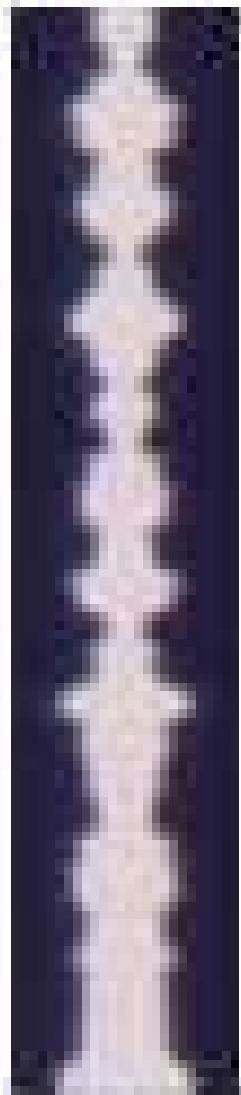


DD DOLBY

D I G I T A L

Optical Sound Track

Process by which a variable density track running alongside the film image registers sound as a series of horizontal stripes which are converted into sound impulses by the light beam from the projector's sound head as the film passes over it.



Sound Motif

A sound effect or combination of sound effects that are associated with a particular character, setting, situation or idea through the film.

The use of sound motifs can help shape a story that requires many characters and many locations and help unify the film and sustain its narrative and thematic development. An example would be in Jaws, whenever the shark threatens the theme cords are heard so to heighten tension.

Soundtrack

Technically, the audio component of a movie, including the dialogue, musical score, narration, and sound effects, that accompany the visual components.

Popularly, a collection of songs heard during the movie, and often sold as an album.

JULY





**THE
END**