

Introduction to Cinematography

This guide is designed to assist our patrons new to cinematography by providing key resources to use as a starting point in their research. Use this information to refine your search, and contact library staff with any follow-up questions or for further research assistance.

Subject Headings

A subject heading can help you refine your search, making it easier to find exactly what you are looking for.

To find books on cinematography that are available in the Film Reference Library, use the following subject headings:

Subject

Include all subjects

- CINEMATOGRAPHY
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - AESTHETICS
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - AMATEURS' MANUALS
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - AUSTRALIA - HISTORY
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - CONGRESSES
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - DICTIONARIES
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - DICTIONARIES - FRENCH
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - DICTIONARIES - GERMAN
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - DICTIONARIES - ITALIAN
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - DICTIONARIES - RUSSIAN
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - DICTIONARIES - SPANISH
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - ENCYCLOPEDIAS
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES - PRESERVATION
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - EUROPE - HISTORY
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - EUROPE - HISTORY - 20TH CENTURY
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - EXHIBITIONS
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - FICTION
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - FRANCE - HISTORY
- CINEMATOGRAPHY - FRANCE - HISTORY - 19TH CENTURY - PICTORIAL WORKS

Examples of subject headings related to cinematography:

- [CINEMATOGRAPHY](#)
- [CINEMATOGRAPHY – HISTORY](#)
- [CINEMATOGRAPHY – LIGHTING](#)
- [CINEMATOGRAPHY – SPECIAL EFFECTS](#)
- [ANIMATION \(CINEMATOGRAPHY\)](#)
- [AUTEUR THEORY – MOTION PICTURES](#)
- [MOTION PICTURES – AESTHETICS](#)

Recommended Books

Books provide a comprehensive overview of a larger topic, making them an excellent resource to start your research with.

[*Chromatic cinema : a history of screen color*](#) by Richard Misek.

Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010

[*Cinematography : theory and practice : imagemaking for cinematographers and directors*](#) by Blain Brown.

Publisher: Routledge, 2016

[*Digital compositing for film and video : production workflows and techniques*](#) by Steve Wright.

Publisher: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2018

[*Every frame a Rembrandt : art and practice of cinematography*](#) by Andrew Laszlo.

Publisher: Focal Press, 2000

[*Hollywood Lighting from the Silent Era to Film Noir*](#) by Patrick Keating.

Publisher: Columbia University Press, 2010

[*The aesthetics and psychology of the cinema*](#) by Jean Mitry.

Publisher: Indiana State University Press, 1997

[*The art of the cinematographer : a survey and interviews with five masters*](#) by Leonard Martin.

Publisher: Dover Publications, c1978.

[*The cinema as a graphic art \(on a theory of representation in the cinema\)*](#) by Vladimir S. Nilsen.

Publisher: Hill and Wang, 1959

[*The filmmaker's guide to visual effects : the art and technique of VFX for directors, producers, editors and cinematographers*](#) by Eran Dinur.

Publisher: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2017

[*The visual story : creating the visual structure of film, TV and Digital Media*](#) by Bruce Block.

Publisher: Focal Press, Taylor & Francis Group, 2013



Articles

Articles are usually shorter in length and focus on a unique argument.

Note: All articles listed can be found from the Film Reference Library's print and/or electronic periodical collection. You can access these articles by visiting the Library in person.

- [Bazin, André. \(1967\). "The Evolution of the Language of the Cinema." *What Is Cinema?*, vol. 1, pp. 23-40.](#)
- [Higgins, S. \(1999\). "Technology and aesthetics: Technicolor cinematography and design in the late 1930s." *Film History*, vol. 11, no.1, pp. 55-76.](#)
- [Keating, P. \(2006\). "From the portrait to the close-up: Gender and technology in still photography and Hollywood cinematography." *Cinema Journal*, vol. 45, no. 3, pp. 90-108.](#)
- [Mateer, John. \(2014\). "Digital Cinematography: Evolution of Craft or Revolution in Production?" *Journal of Film and Video*, vol 66, no. 2, pp. 3-14.](#)

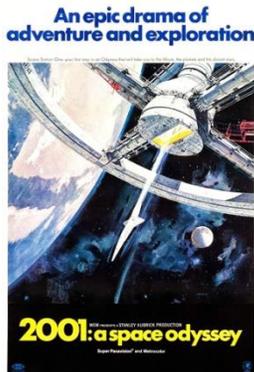
Periodicals

Trade Journals and Magazines are a great way for cinematographers to keep up to date to industry trends and learn from fellow filmmakers.

- [American Cinematographer](#). USA: ASC Holding Corp.
- [Canadian Cinematographer](#). Canada: Canadian Society of Cinematographers.
- [Cineaction](#). Canada: Cineaction.
- [Journal of Film Preservation](#). Belgium: International Federation of Film Archives.

Films

The following films have been celebrated for their achievements in cinematography, drawn from the American Society of Cinematographers' *100 Milestone Films in Cinematography of the 20th Century*.



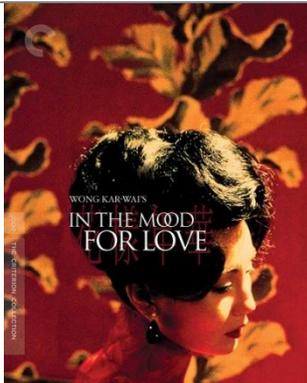
2001: A Space Odyssey (1968),
dir. Stanley Kubrick
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)



Blade Runner (1982),
dir. Ridley Scott
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)



Citizen Kane (1941),
dir. Orson Welles
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)



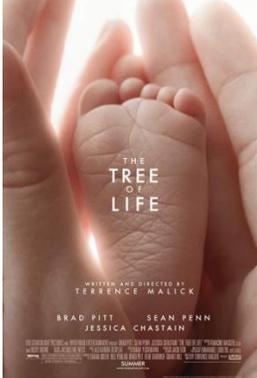
In the Mood for Love (2000),
dir. Wong Kar Wai
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)



Lawrence of Arabia (1962),
dir. David Lean
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)



Moonlight (2016),
dir. Barry Jenkins
[\[Film File\]](#)

 <p>ROBERT DE NIRO "RAGING BULL" A ROBERT CHAPPELLO FILM A MARTIN SCORSESE PRODUCTION STARRING ROBERT DE NIRO AND JACQUELINE BISHOP Produced by JACQUELINE BISHOP and MARTIN SCORSESE Based on the book by JACK L. RABBITO with JACQUELINE BISHOP and MARTIN SCORSESE Directed and Edited by MARTIN SCORSESE Produced by JACQUELINE BISHOP and ROBERT CHAPPELLO Distributed by United Artists</p> <p><i>Raging Bull</i> (1980), dir. Martin Scorsese [AV] [Film File]</p>	 <p>THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL A WES ANDERSON FILM STARRING FREDRICK WU AND TILDA SWINBTON Produced by WES ANDERSON Directed by WES ANDERSON Distributed by United Artists</p> <p><i>The Grand Budapest Hotel</i> (2014), dir. Wes Anderson [Film File]</p>	 <p>THE TREE OF LIFE WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY TERRENCE MALICK STARRING BRAD PITT SEAN PENN JESSICA CHASTAIN DISTRIBUTED BY PICTURES BY TERRENCE MALICK Produced by PICTURES BY TERRENCE MALICK Directed by TERRENCE MALICK Distributed by United Artists</p> <p><i>The Tree of Life</i> (2011), dir. Terrence Malick [AV] [Film File]</p>
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External Sources

Links to resources and institutions that have more information on cinematography history and industry.

- [100 Milestone Films in Cinematography of the 20th Century: The American Society of Cinematographers](#)
- [Canadian Society of Cinematographers](#)
- [Cinema: An International History of Film](#)
- [The American Society of Cinematographers](#)
- [The History of Cinematography: Kodak](#)