

Thomas Alva Edison

e il cinetoscopio

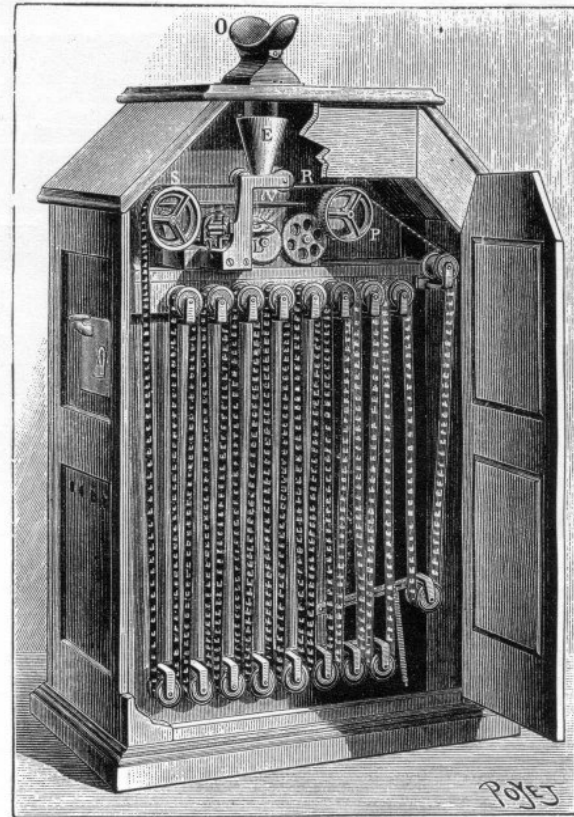
Lo studio cinematografico di Edison a Orange, New Jersey, nel 1895



Chiamato in gergo “Black Maria” per la sua somiglianza con un furgone cellulare della polizia. (Fino a vent’anni fa si chiamavano “cellulari” non i telefoni ma i furgoni della polizia per portar via gli arrestati.)



Un'altra immagine di Black Maria: un capannone ricoperto di cartone nero catramato con il tetto apribile per fare entrare la luce, e orientabile girando su una rotaia circolare per seguire la posizione del sole. Costruito nel 1893, successivamente distrutto, è stato ricostruito nel 1954 all'interno del sito storico dedicato ad Edison. Può essere che le immagini siano pertinenti alla ricostruzione.



Cinetoscopi a S. Francisco, 1898

EDISON

1901 MODEL

PROJECTING KINETOSCOPE

IS NOW READY. FULL DESCRIPTION IN CATALOGUE No. 101.

NEW FILMS NOW PREPARING. NEW FILMS.

- LAURA COMSTOCK'S BAG PUNCHING DOG**.....(Code word, Ungaited) 100 ft.
Shows Laura Comstock's Wonderful Trick Dog, Hamie, punching the bag. Very clear and realistic. Full of action.
We also furnish an excellent 50ft. strip. (Code word, Ungaited.)
- PIK TRAMP AND BULL DOG**.....(Code word, Ungaited.) 75 ft.
Tramp enters, sees bull dog in kennel, retreats, re-enters on all fours. Starts eating pie from a shelf. Bull dog jumps from window, throws tramp and shakes him up.
- GOBBON NESTER'S BOXING**.....(Code word, Ungaited) 100 ft.
Champion Female Boxer of the World.
We also furnish an excellent 50 ft. strip.....(Code word, Ungaited)
- TIAMU'S DREAM**.....(Code word, Ungaited) 100 ft.
Tramp asleep on park bench. Dreams of getting pie without working for it. Also of an encounter with a bull dog. Wakes up, finds it only a dream. A cop has just soaked him on the bottom of his feet. Very Funny.
- HAPPY HOOLEGAN'S APRIL FOOL**.....(Code word, Ungaited) 50 ft.
HAPPY HOOLEGAN'S SURPRISE.....(Code word, Ungaited) 65 ft.
WHY HUGGINS STOPPED DRINKING.....(Code word, Ungaited) 75 ft.
MONTREAL FIRE DEPARTMENT ON HUNTERS.....(Code word, Ungaited) 100 ft.
LOVE BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON.....(Ungaited) 65 ft.
A DONKEY PARTY.....(Ungaited) 60 ft.
The Greatest Hysterical Picture ever made is now ready.
- MYSTERIOUS BLACKBOARD**.....(Code word, Ungaited) 100 ft.

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<p>CALL AT OUR NEW YORK OFFICE AND SEE THESE WONDERFUL FILMS</p>	<p>EDISON MFG. CO. MAIN OFFICE AND FACTORY, ORANGE, N. J., U. S. A. NEW YORK SALEROOM, 110 FIFTH AVE. THE PRICE OF FILMS IS \$1.00 PER 100 FEET. Shorter or longer lengths in Progress.</p>	<p>WE HAVE ATTAINED A HIGH STANDARD OF PHOTOGRAPHIC PERFECTION AND ARE SELLING BUT PERFECT FILMS.</p>
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CLASS A FILMS
15 Cents per foot
Exhibition Model
Kinetoscope \$115.00

EDISON

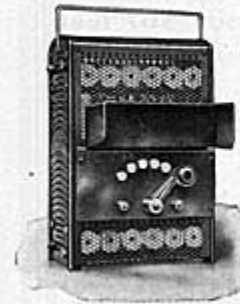
CLASS B FILMS
12 Cents per foot
Universal Model
Kinetoscope \$75.00

FILMS AND PROJECTING KINETOSCOPES

THE RECOGNIZED STANDARDS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

EDISON RHEOSTAT UNDERWRITER'S MODEL

Approved by The New York Board of Fire Underwriters and the Department of Water Supply Gas and Electricity



FRONT VIEW
SWITCH AND COVER



REAR VIEW
CASING REMOVED

The above Rheostat is the result of a series of careful experiments and tests aimed to produce an apparatus to meet every requirement of Municipal Authorities and Motion Picture Exhibitors. The resistance is built up with individual coils of "Climax" wire, and any single coil may be replaced without disturbing any other coil, by simply loosening four set screws. A heavy perforated sheet steel casing thoroughly protects and ventilates the coils. Terminals and adjustable switch are mounted on a non-conducting slate base protected by a sheet steel automatic closing cover. Asbestos covered copper wires connect the various coils with switch contacts and all connections are solderless. A convenient handle facilitates handling, especially when Rheostat is hot. All parts are made with jigs and templates insuring interchangeability.

The above Rheostat is adapted for all models of Edison Projecting Kinetoscopes, and for either 110-125 volts direct current, or 100-110 volts alternating current, and 25 to 30 amperes without excessive heating.

The above features combined with the best materials and workmanship, superior design and construction have produced a PERFECT RHEOSTAT.

CAT. NO.	TITLE	CODE	PRICE
K-15189	Rheostat, Underwriter's Model	YESALES	\$25.00

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PETER BAGICALUPI, 1107 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, 4 cal.
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DEALERS IN ALL PRINCIPAL CITIES.

Publicità per il kinetoscopio, 1901 e 1907. Edison gode di grande fama e il suo cognome è ritenuto un marchio affidabile. Per questo viene stampato in grandi dimensioni.

Un filmato di Edison si può visionare a questo indirizzo:

<http://www.screensite.org/courses/Jbutler/T112/EdisonIllustrations02.htm>

Esso mostra un'officina di fabbro ed è simile, a parte le abbondanti libagioni dei lavoranti, ad un filmato della prima serata dei fratelli Lumière.

I fautori del primato di Edison sui Lumière attribuiscono a questo filmato la data del 1893.

Altri due filmati, con scene di balletto, si possono visionare all'indirizzo:

<http://www.edisonfilm.com/>

Essi si presentano acquerellati a mano dalle mogli dei dipendenti di Edison e sembrano posteriori (1897).

Il fallimento dell'invenzione di Edison rispetto a quella dei Lumière non è commerciale ma è dovuto ad una diversa concezione del mezzo cinematografico.

Per i Lumière il cinema è uno spettacolo pubblico, un'occasione sociale; per Edison un'attività individuale e solitaria: un peep show in cui lo spettatore inserisce una moneta per vedere da solo una breve clip.

La televisione, con il suo voyeurismo privato e domestico, può essere considerata la principale estensione novecentesca del Kinetoscopio di Edison.