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THE HISTORY OF FILM

It's known that the Film Industry is one of the largest industries in the world and its profits go up the roof every year. Though there's no person on Earth who does not watch TV or go to the movies every once in a while, only a few people actually know how and when the Cinema started. To be fair, before Filmmaking was actually a thing, artists and reviewers didn't really see it as Art, just like they did when Photography first started. Today, when we say "Cinema is the Seventh Art", we're referring to a term that is not completely true, since the discussion about whether or not Filmmaking is an artistic process is still happening.

Back to the History of Film, we cannot forget that the machines we use today to record scenes and audios did not appear suddenly. Even before the creation of the photographic film, a French artist named Louis-Jacques-Mandé-Daguerre invented, around 1840, a device called a daguerreotype — a very narcissistic mixture of his own name with the ending "type"—, which was basically a box with a sheet of metal treated to be sensitive to light. When exposing that sheet to light for a certain time, the image that enters the box is formed, as if the daguerreotype were a small camera obscura.

As early as 1885, George Eastman — owner of the Eastman Kodak Company — created the first roll of paper film and in 1889, Kodak started selling the transparent rolls of film we know today, made of plastic. Without Eastman's creation of this analog media, there might not have been the dawn of what we now have as Cinema, since the first device invented to reproduce moving images, the kinetoscope, had mechanisms that functioned as an individual cinema screen. In the kinetoscope, one spectator at a time watched scenes in a loop, formed by several photographs in sequence on a roll of film, which passed before their eyes through a peephole.

Thanks to the kinetoscope, invented around 1893 by one of Thomas Edison's employees — yes, the guy who invented the lightbulb —, William Dickinson, that the cinematographic process started in the world, even if still very primitive. Edison Studios' first "films" were no more than 20 seconds long and had daily scenes as their main theme, the main creations being "The Kiss", "Serpentine Dance", "Sandow (The Strong Man)", "The Barber Shop", "Feeding the Doves" and "Seminary Girls". Without the invention of Edison Laboratories, perhaps the birth of Cinema would not have occurred. It is good to remember that the creation of the Seventh Art comes from collective work, that is, everyone involved, from the one who

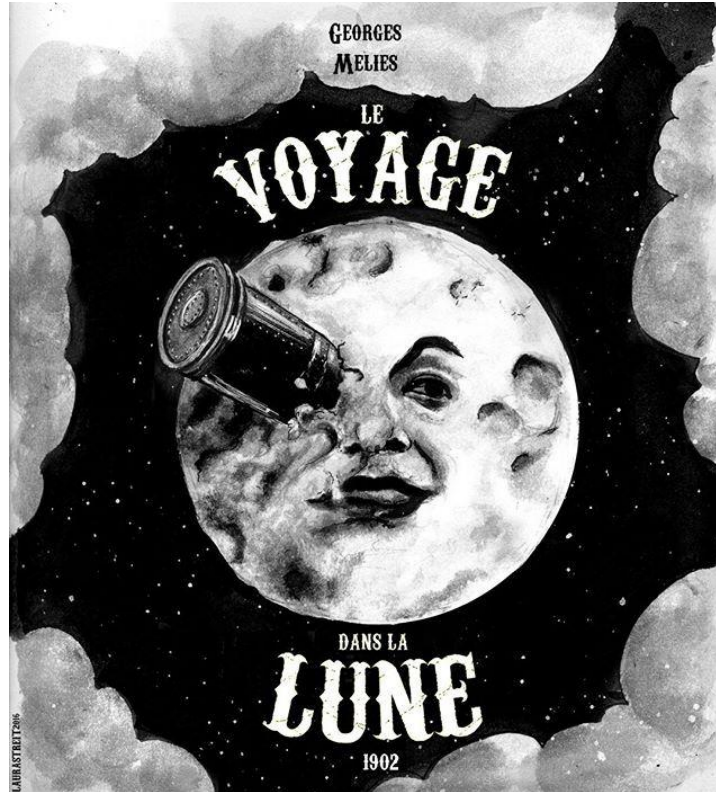
created the photographic paper to the janitor on the “Avengers” movie set are the ones who made and and have been making everything happen. Without them, there would be no Cinema. And without Cinema, you can't live.



Auguste and Louis Lumière, the so-called Lumière Brothers, would surely agree that one cannot live without cinema: these two created the Cinematograph, a revolutionary device that consisted of a film projector and a printer together, and that could only be invented thanks to Edison's Kinetoscope. Teamwork! All this work made it possible for a large group of spectators to watch a film, and best of all, the Cinematograph was completely portable, since it did not need electricity and could operate from a hand crank. The Brothers, in 1895, made their first film: “Workers Leaving the Lumière Factory”, which showed men and women leaving the factory at the end of the day, and was presented first on March 22nd of 1895 in Paris, at the "Society for the Development of the National Industry" for about 200 people, and on December 28 of that same year, at the Salon Indien du Grand Café in Paris, the first paid public screening happened. Along with this film, several others were also presented, and each roll of film was about 17 meters long! Wow, and to think that today we can simply use Netflix... Lumière brothers created several short and unique films, such as “The Sprinkler Sprinkled”, “Horse Trick Riders”, “Baby's Breakfast”, and their most noticeable one: “The Arrival of a Train at La Ciotat Station”. The people who saw this movie for the first time thought the images were so realistic that they feared an actual train was behind the screen.



It is notable the influence that Auguste and Louis had both for the public's life and for the audiovisual world: their great products revolutionized artistic creation and the way of seeing the world. Despite this, for the brothers, Cinema was an invention with no future, and therefore, should be used only for scientific purposes. Because of this, the Lumière brothers decided not to sell the cinematograph to other filmmakers, like Georges Méliès, the creator of the famous film *Le voyage dans la Lune*, from 1902. After being denied the sale of the device to the filmmaker, he ended up buying a device called a teatrographer by the English scientist Robert William Paul who, in addition to inventing this projector, also created the first rotating camera of that time. And that's how Georges Méliès started his career in the audiovisual world.



Méliès was a French illusionist and filmmaker who was often referred to as “a magician in cinema”, and he managed to create several stories that can be easily called sci-fi movies, filled with crazy adventures, science and brand new filming techniques. Georges was not the first nor the last filmmaker to invent and reinvent the way people made Cinema and the Filmmaking industry has been innovating its techniques every single day. To be a movie director is so much more than just commanding people in order to shoot a scene that works just fine: it is about changing points of view, creating stories, changing lives. Film has its own way to present different realities to different people in different countries with no boundaries, and being able to make these things proves that Filmmaking is more than just moving pictures with background music: it is life.

People like Charlie Chaplin, Stanley Kubrick, Alfred Hitchcock, Jean-Luc Godard, Quentin Tarantino, Francis Ford Coppola, George Lucas and so many others are the ones who make this giant new world exist and, therefore, change our world. Their legacy has changed and will keep changing lives from all around the world forever. So, everytime you watch a movie, thank everyone who made it happen: those were the people who wanted to bring life into our lives.

