

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD by Tacita Dean and Christopher Nolan.....	13
PREFACE	17
INTRODUCTION	19
CHAPTER 1 – THE PRINT	29
Motion Picture Film	30
• Perforations	33
• Projection Speed.....	34
• Soundtrack.....	37
• Aspect Ratio	38
• Reel Length	38
Do's and Don'ts	39
CHAPTER 2 – THE PROJECTOR	43
The Projector Mechanism	45
The Picture Head	46
Sound Readers.....	58
The Projector's Motor.....	68
The Lamphouse.....	68
Do's and Don'ts	78
CHAPTER 3 – ENVIRONMENTS	83
The Projection Booth	83
Beyond the Port: The Theater.....	87
The Screen.....	88
Speakers.....	92
Theater Sound.....	95
Comfort	96
Do's and Don'ts	99

CHAPTER 4 – FILM IDENTIFICATION	103
The Inspection Report	105
Receiving Film Prints	105
Types of Film Prints.....	109
Film Stocks.....	110
Aspect Ratios.....	113
Soundtracks	123
• Optical Sound	124
• Magnetic Sound	135
• Digital Sound.....	136
Do's and Don'ts	141
CHAPTER 5 – FILM INSPECTION	147
Equipment and Tools	148
Inspecting Film for Projection: An Overview.....	152
• Use In-House Reels.....	153
• Inspect Reels in Sequential Order.....	154
• Pace of Inspection.....	154
Reel Orientation and Identification.....	154
Physical Inspection	158
Countdown Leaders	158
• Academy Countdown.....	160
• SMPTE Countdown	160
• Splices and Incomplete Frames	160
Splices, Damage, and Shrinkage	161
• Splices	162
• Damage	166
• Shrinkage	166
Changeover Cues.....	167
• Cue Marks	168
Tail Leader	175
Do's and Don'ts	176

CHAPTER 6 – PREPARING FOR THE SHOW	181
Checking the Equipment	182
The Aperture Plate and the Lens	184
Powering the Equipment	187
Threading the Projector	188
Mounting the Reels	189
Setting the Intermittent	194
Framing and the Intermittent Sprocket	195
Threading the Countdown Leader in the Projector	196
Upper Loop	199
Lower Loop	201
Sound Head	202
Take-Up	208
Do's and Don'ts	210
 CHAPTER 7 – THE FINAL TOUCH: PRE-FOCUS	 215
Audio Format	216
Gate Tension	217
Focus and Framing	220
Vertical Alignment	224
Sound Level	226
Screen Masking	227
Tweaks and Adjustments	229
Unthreading the Projector	230
Do's and Don'ts	231
 CHAPTER 8 – THE SHOW	 235
I. BASIC PRACTICES FOR THE PROJECTIONIST	236
Starting the Show	236
Changeovers	239
Threading the Countdown Leader for Changeovers	241
Changeover Mechanisms	243

Performing a Changeover	246
Between Reels	247
Focusing and Framing the Image	251
Sound Adjustments.	252
Ending the Show	252
• Ending the Last Reel.	253
• Storing the Print	253
• Cleaning the Projectors	254
• Turning Off the Equipment	254
II. TROUBLESHOOTING	255
Unsteady Picture.	256
• Jump.	256
• Weave.	256
• Focus Fluctuation	258
Film Breaks.	259
Debris in the Gate.	261
Losing a Loop	261
Do's and Don'ts	264
CHAPTER 9 – CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE	269
Cleaning the Booth.	270
Cleaning the Projector	271
Equipment Maintenance.	279
• Lubrication: Some Precautions	281
• Mechanical Parts	282
• Lamps and Illumination.	283
• Sound Systems	287
Cleaning the Screen	288
Do's and Don'ts	290

CHAPTER 10 – NITRATE FILM PROJECTION	297
How to Identify Nitrate Film	298
Why Project Nitrate?	300
Precautions and Regulations	300
The Nitrate Projection Booth.....	302
Nitrate-Ready Projectors	303
Nitrate Storage and Transport.....	310
Do's and Don'ts	312
AFTERWORD	317
APPENDICES	319
A. Sample Inspection Report	320
B. Sample Projection Booth Maintenance Log	321
C. Preparing the Show: A Checklist	324
SUGGESTED READINGS	328
CONTRIBUTORS	331
INDEX	335