

## Book Review

The “Movie-Made America” by Robert Skalar provides a short description of the American film industry history highlighting the improvements made in the field. The book analyzes the relationship between the movie and the culture. The book explains the contribution and influence of the movie on other components of art and culture. The writer tries to describe the inventions made to improve the quality of motion pictures. Dickson focused on projecting images to make them more clear and visible. The movie industry saw many improvements. One of them was the replacement of the old and inefficient cylinder model of producing motion pictures by the strip model which was more efficient. The author focused on the production of large pictures. As long as pictures had better characteristics in terms of color and clarity, they easily gained popularity. Dickson and Edison made a lot of profits from the sales of their machines.

It is said in the book that Dickson sold his machines locally and later advanced to sell the projector machines in other countries. Dickson was the first to introduce such a machine in the Chicago market; this was a significant improvement. There was a lot of competition in the sector from the Americans who produced more competing brands than Dickson’s and Erickson’s projectors. The machines made could play motion pictures for quite a short time. Dickson and Edison also known as the wizards in the sector made a lot of innovations. They always aimed at producing better machines in large quantities to so as to satisfy the demand. There was the advancement in machines produced, and some of them could play music while displaying pictures. The companies came up with the ideas of producing cameras and other items in an attempt to improve the film industry. Dickson experienced challenges marketing the machines abroad. The customers were interested a lot of in the machines. However, the British customers suddenly lost interest in them after Dickson failed to secure patents for his innovations. The machines got popularity in places such as theatres gaining a lot of popularity. Dickson’s laboratories and his attempts to improve the film industry formed an amusing episode.

Wiley Black’s “History of the American films” shows the development of the photography industry. There was greater production of black and white pictures. The newspapers printed white and black pictures to accompany their articles. The artists produced wood arts and carvings. Their art became very popular in America, France, England, and South Africa. This illustrates how the art spread to other parts of the world through the visual forms. The book explains the main developments that occurred in the movie industry. The art was an essential tool at this stage as it used to pass messages. This method was a fantastic achievement, and it helped to solve problems of the language barrier and illiteracy when delivering a message. The main focus of the writers was how to include the visual elements in promoting the art and culture. The authors explain how art and visual description can be used to demonstrate the reality of life. Confusion arises on the issue of reality portrayed since the pictures produced were only in white and black colors. The writers try to explain how the American culture improved by the use of movies and visual description. From these writings, visual descriptions can be a useful resource in developing the culture. Innovations improving the film industry became eminent in this era. In conclusion, does the film and visual art contribute to a substantial part of the American culture? What needs to be done to improve the film and art making it easy to represent a large part of the culture?