



MONTAGE

Sub: Film studies (FE 3)
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INTRODUCTION

- Soviet Montage Theory is a film movement that took place in Soviet Russia during 1910s, 1920s and into 1930s.
- It was founded by Lev kuleshov while he was teaching at the Moscow film school.
- This movement is widely known for changing the landscape of film editing around the world.
- The word montage is rooted in the french language as a term to describe the connection of individual pieces , whether they be film , music or images into a cohesive whole.
- Montage is a film editing technique in which a series of short shots are segmented to condense space, time and information .
- It was used to create symbolism.
- Scene A + Scene B = Scene C

TYPES

- According to the prominent Soviet Director Sergei Eisenstein (Father of Montage), there are five types of Montages.
 1. Intellectual Montage
 2. Metric Montage
 3. Rhythmic Montage
 4. Tonal Montage
 5. Overtonal Montage

INTELLECTUAL MONTAGE

- The practice of cutting according to the shot's relationship to an intellectual concept .
- Intellect has to be used to create the third scene or meaning.
- Eg. Kuleshov Effect (Muzhokin'Face +soup=hunger, MF + coffin = Grief, MF +woman = lust)
- Eg. Statue of sleeping stone lion in Battleship Potemkin.



METRIC MONTAGE

- The practice of cutting according to exact measurements, irregardless of the content of the shot.
- Inspired by the pacing of musical score AKA meter.
- This is used to create a visual pace within a film scene by cutting to the next shot after a finite number of frames no matter what is happening on screen.
- Eg. Prepping for war scene in Battleship Potemkin.

RHYTHMIC MONTAGE

- The practice of cutting according to the content of the shots or continuity editing.
- Most commonly used form.
- Used to keep the pace of both visual and auditory sense.
- Eg. Massacre of the Odeyssey step in BP.

TONAL MONTAGE

- The practice of cutting according to the emotional tone of the piece.
- It is a combination of both metric and rhythmic montage to highlight any emotional themes.
- It helps to setablish the tone of a scene thrpugh editing shots together that have the same thematic aim.
- Eg.

OVERTONAL MONTAGE

- Intermixing of larger themes , political, religious, philosophical etc with the emotional tone of the piece through the use of metric and rhythmic montage.
- An amalgamation of all types of montage.
- Eg.



Over tonal. The overtonal montage is the cumulation of metric, rhythmic, and tonal montage to synthesize its effect on the audience for an even more abstract and complicated effect.



Tonal a tonal montage uses the emotional meaning of the shots to elicit a reaction from the audience even more complex than from the metric or rhythmic montage. For example, a sleeping baby would evoke calmness and relaxation. Example: Eisenstein's *The Battleship Potemkin*.



Intellectual Uses shots which, combined, elicit an intellectual meaning.



Metric this is where cutting to the next shot no matter what is happening within the image. This montage is used to elicit the most basal and emotional of reactions in the audience. Example: Eisenstein's *October*.



Rhythmic this is cutting based on time using the visual composition of the shots. Once sound was introduced, rhythmic montage also included audial elements, such as music, dialogue & sounds. Example: *The Battleship Potemkin*'s "Odessa steps" sequence.

