

Randall Auxier
Professor of Philosophy and Communication Studies
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL 62901

**Image, Cinema, Dream:
Langer and the Moving Pictures**

Susanne Langer said that the primary semblance of movies as an art form is that it is like dreaming. But in this case, someone else dreams for us, and our immobility in the theater chair, in the dark, simulating the sleep state, is the beginning of an education of eye and ear in which our generalized passivity is a condition for travels through lucid narration. A thousand tiny anticipations and rememberings are blended in our interpreting of what we see and hear. I will explore some of the analogies to dreaming we experience when we see a movie on the big screen at the cinema, especially the bending and shaping of time that movie-makers (such as Christopher Nolan) like to bring into our "waking dreams."