A man in a blue suit and hat is singing joyfully in the rain. He is holding a black umbrella and has his arms outstretched. He is standing on a small platform or ledge. The background is a brick wall with a window and a door. The rain is falling heavily around him.

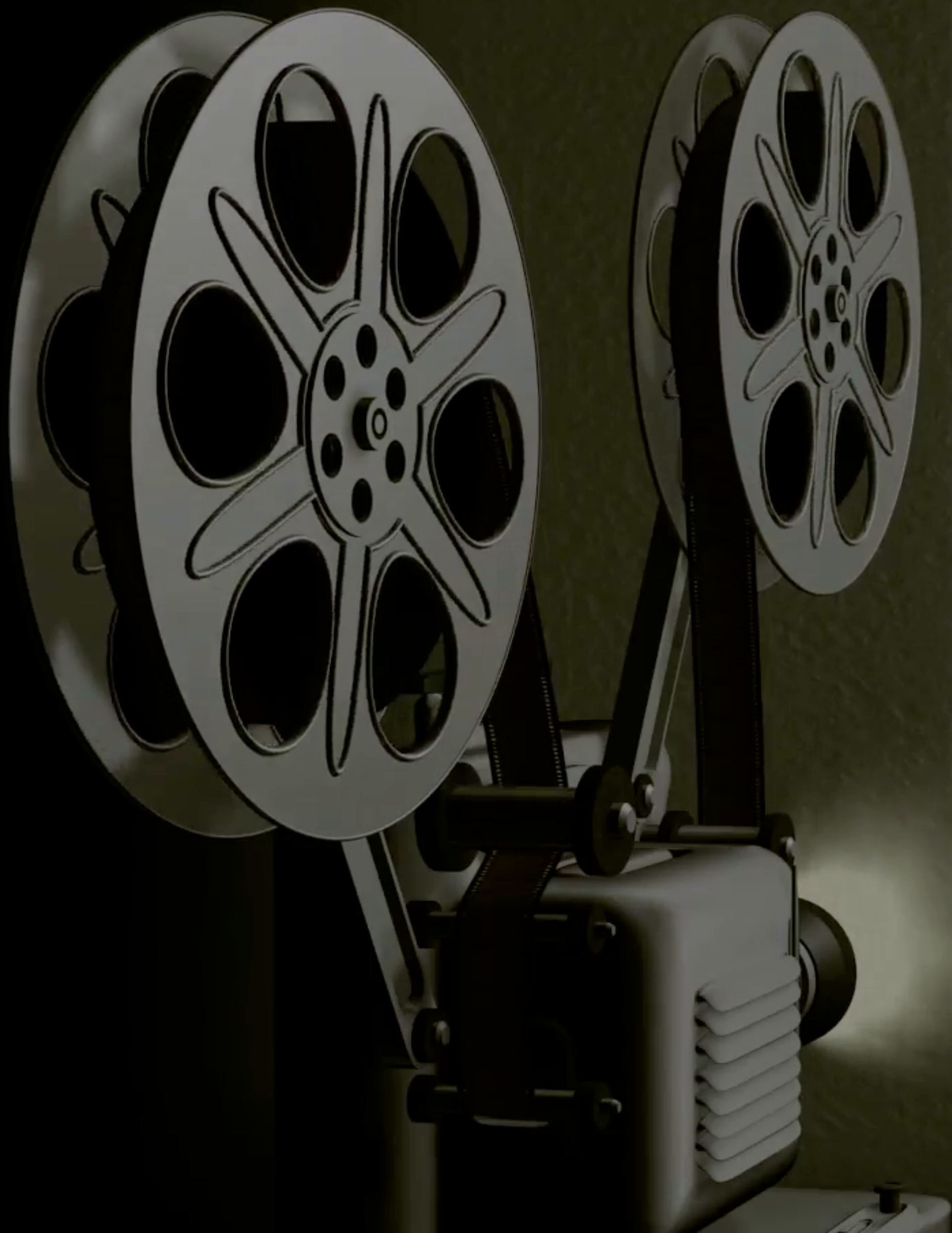
a prayer of
joy

Singing in the Rain
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 1952



*⁴ Make a joyful noise to the Lord,
all the earth;
break forth into joyous song
and sing praises!*

Psalm 98 (ESV)



***“Deep within us we have this
impulse to seek out joy in
our surroundings.”***

Ingrid Fetell Lee, *The Aesthetics of Joy*



La La Land
Summit Entertainment, 2016

⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

2 Corinthians 4



A man in a dark trench coat and hat stands in the rain, holding a black umbrella. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. In the background, a sign on a wall reads "HUNTINGWOOD SCHOOL". The scene is set outdoors with trees and a building visible in the distance.

joy is resistance to despair.

²² The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. ²³ After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. ²⁴ When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.

Acts 16





²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷ The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"



joy is reaction to love.

Moulin Rouge
Twentieth Century Fox, 2001

*³¹ They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. ³³ At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. ³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; **he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God**—he and his whole household.*

