

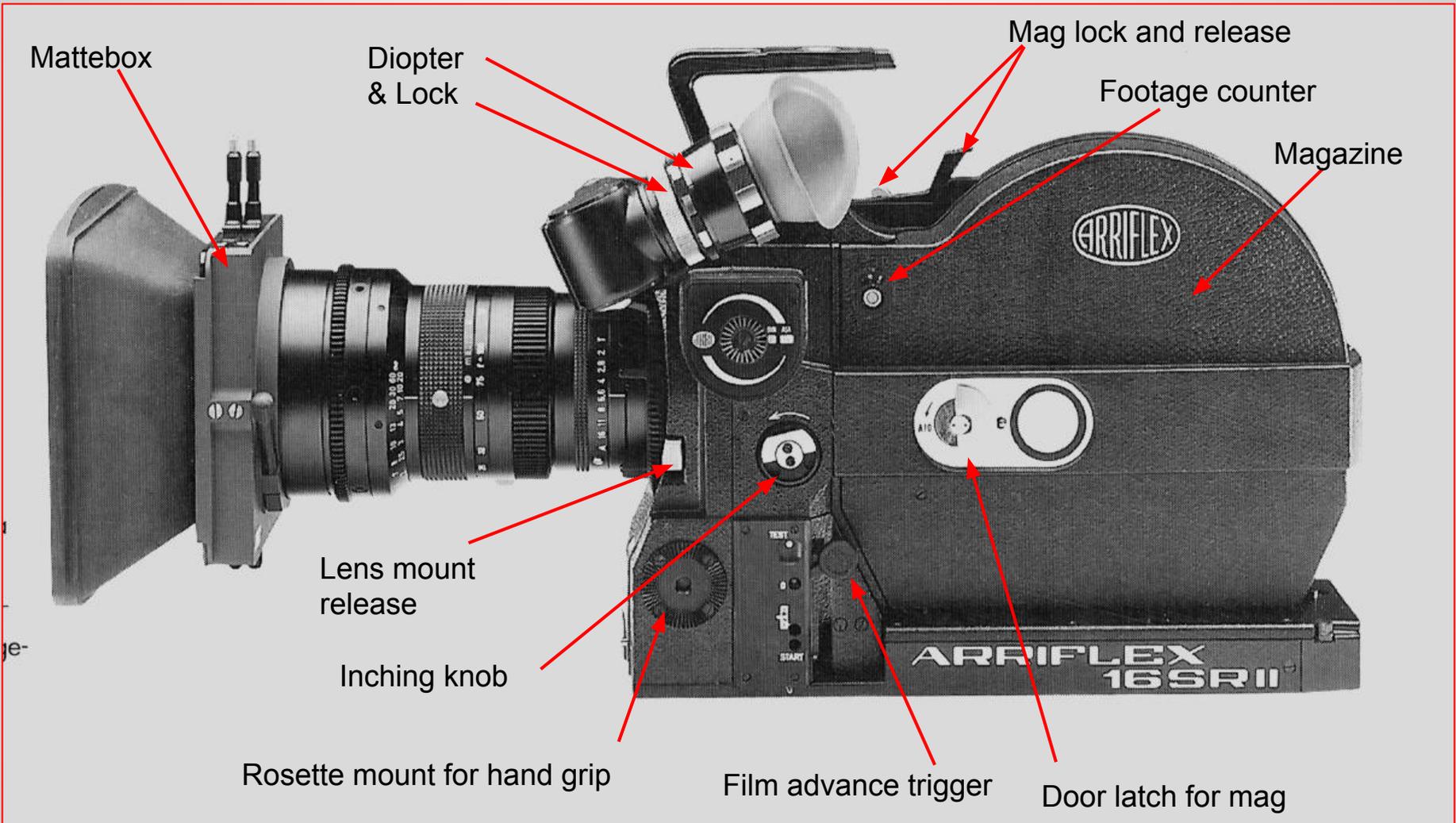
# The Arri SR



## Part I: Functionality

# Why are we learning these old cameras anyways?

1. They teach you the basic mechanics of motion picture photography in a way that a video camera does not.
2. If you make a mistake, it shows, which allows you to learn.
3. We think the materiality of film is valuable, and we want you to be exposed to that materiality.
4. It's harder and we think you could do with a challenge.
5. It's not the camera that makes the film, it's the filmmaker. Whether you shoot on an iphone or 35mm, what you're learning is story-telling.



Mattebox

Diopter  
& Lock

Mag lock and release

Footage counter

Magazine

Lens mount  
release

Inching knob

Rosette mount for hand grip

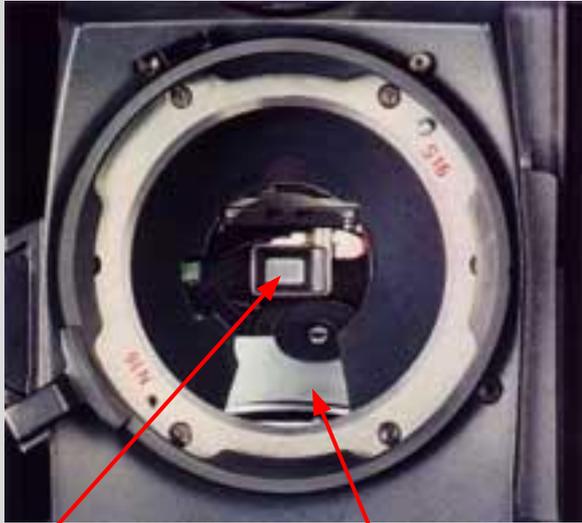
Film advance trigger

Door latch for mag

je-

# The shutter:

Open shutter



The gate

Mirrored surface

The shutter on this camera is fixed at 180 degrees, and is coated with a mirrored glass.

When you turn the inching knob you can see the shutter rotate around, revealing the film gate. When the shutter is open, light is hitting the film. After completing a shot it is a good idea to “check the gate” by removing the lens and rotating the shutter to check for any hairs or dirt in the gate. If you find some, use a hand air blower to blow out the debris. \*DO NOT blow into the gate as you will get moisture inside

When the shutter is closed, light is hitting the mirror, and reflecting up into the viewfinder, so there is no loss of light like there is with the bolex. This is why the image will flicker in the viewfinder when you roll, and why the viewfinder appears black when the shutter is open.

# Speed control and power:



4 Pin XLR input  
for battery

Camera speed control,  
plugs into fischer  
connector on back



# The lens:



Zeiss 10-100mm

Zoom lens

Bayonet mount

T-stops marked in  
red

# Loading and Unloading:

- Loading the SR, which uses a coaxial magazine, is actually easier than loading the bolex, but it must be done in total darkness
- Load with sprockets facing up (see image inside mag)
- Practice a few times in the light with a dummy roll, then try in the change tent
- A good tip is to have a second empty mag open outside of the tent, so you can visualize what you're working with inside
- Make sure you label your mag once it's loaded with the type of film stock and how much you put in

Loading guide:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MA1xeDn-Pvk>

Unloading guide:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCtFxoQg\\_i4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCtFxoQg_i4)

# Loading Continued:

## Important things to remember:

- check your mag for debris and dust before beginning, blow out with air blower
- when properly loaded, emulsion side of film should face out towards lens
- remember to form your loops using the guideline on the bottom of the mag
- when you're putting your mag on the camera, check that the film is in the film guide and that you can see the holes in three sprockets
- when you're unloading make sure you leave the metal core in the camera and do not unload it into your can or the next person will not be able to use the camera
- label your short ends appropriately, and always have a spare can and bag (ask film tech)
- after mounting the mag on the camera, test by hitting the "test" button to be sure your sprockets are engaged
- tape your can shut with proper tape please!

# Other notes and references:

- Slate your shots, even though they're MOW! This is good practice and also useful for editing.
- If you over or underexpose a roll by accident make note of that (if you overexposed by 2 stops then note that you want it "pulled" by 2 stops, if you underexposed say you want it "pushed" by two stops) anything over 2 stops off, the lab can't do, but even two stops closer will help you get an image.
- READ THE MANUAL!
- Double check your exposure before rolling.
- Always roll a few seconds longer after the director calls cut.
- Meet the deadlines: if your film gets sent to the lab late, YOU need to pay for the courier, and you hold up the whole class at the transfer facility.

More reference video if you get stuck:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hA1d9JuqWCs>