

Bolex 583 Sound Macro-Zoom
Bolex 563 XL Sound Macro-Zoom



Super 8 Sound Cameras

Bolex 583 and 563 XL Sound Macro-Zoom Film with sound as freely as filming a silent movie

Until now, whenever you wanted to record background sound live, you had to film continuously. Unlike silent filming, you could not let go off the release to change angle because each time you stopped filming there was a noticeable break in the sound track. That's now a thing of the past. Technical solutions have been devised and, with the Bolex 583 and 563XL Sound Macro-Zoom cameras, this obstacle has vanished for good. These two cameras also enable you to produce any kind of transition between different sequences, including dissolves of both picture and sound. Equipped with a microphone (cordless) that plugs into the camera body, they are also remarkably easy to handle. The combination of these advantages results in two cameras enabling you to shoot sound movies with just as much freedom of action as if you were filming a silent movie.

No more breaks in the sound between two sequences

The release mechanism works in two stages and the film only starts to be driven when the capstan of the sound system has reached its normal turning speed. The breaks in sound between two sequences are thus reduced to a negligible minimum. When recording background music, you can stop and restart filming as often as you wish, just as you would when shooting a silent film.

All kinds of sound and picture transitions including dissolves

To move from one sequence to another, you can choose between an abrupt transition, a fade or a dissolve. Abrupt transitions of picture and sound are used when filming several sequences of a certain scene in the same place and when the background sound remains relatively constant.

The picture fade, which may or may not be accompanied by a similar sound fade, is the ideal way to soften the transition between two completely different sequences, filmed at separate times and in separate places. Picture and sound dissolves are used to link sequences of the same subject filmed in different places and with different sound backgrounds. It should be noted that even a dissolve (over 72 frames), which can be quite tricky to produce when adding a sound track after filming, is the easiest thing in the world to achieve, simply by moving a knob at the end of the take. The camera mechanism automatically stops and the film is also automatically rewind. Dissolves can be produced not only at the speeds of 18 and 24 f.p.s. but also during single-frame filming.

Microphone plugs in to the camera body

The sounds lending atmosphere to the scene being filmed and background music account for the vast majority of live recordings made by amateur movie makers. This is a fact that has been proved time and time again. And this is why we wanted to produce a sound camera whose chief characteristic was to make this kind of recording as simple as possible and which, together with the microphone, would be exceptionally easy to handle. The Bolex 583 and 563XL Sound Macro-Zoom cameras were therefore equipped with a microphone that plugs into the camera body and forms an integral part of it. This is a directional condenser microphone mounted on a short and very well sprung telescopic boom.

Two microphone inputs with automatic mixing of the two sound elements. Sometimes, when recording an interview, for example, you will want to use a second microphone (an accessory supplied separately) placed close to the subject being filmed. In this way you will be working with two microphones, one capturing the general background sounds, the other the main sound or voice. Direct mixing of the two sound signals is carried out automatically.

All this plus...
the many technical
refinements of a highly
advanced projector



• **Reflex viewfinder** with numerous indications and signals: 1 Universal setting. 2 Film advance. 3 Dissolve/under-exposure (only on model 563XL). 4 Recording level. 5 Over-exposure zone. 6 Under-exposure zone (only on model 583). 7 Accurate focusing by split-image rangefinder.

• **Universal setting:** with the distance set to 20 ft. and a focal length less than 15 mm, the depth of field is sufficient for you to be able to film everything in front of the lens without worrying about focus; in this case, a luminous signal lights up in the viewfinder.

• **The Aspheron super wide-angle optical accessory,** fixed on the lens of the Bolex 583 or 563XL, makes it possible to obtain a resulting focal length of 4 mm. The filming field is then approximately 3.5 times larger than that obtained with the wide-angle setting of either of the two cameras. All this without any distortion or loss of luminosity.



• **Macro filming:** for spectacular close-ups of tiny subjects filmed at very close range.

• **Power zoom with two speeds:** for smooth changes of focal length.

• **Filming speeds:** a choice of three: 18, 24 or 36* frames per second (camera noise reduced to the absolute minimum). *for silent films only

• **The built-in timer** permits:
a) single-frame filming with automatic camera release at intervals varying between 1 and 60 seconds; b) in normal running, automatic release after 8 seconds, with preselection of sequence duration.

• **Two microphone inputs with automatic or manual adjustment of the sound level** for straightforward and tricky recordings respectively.

• **Checking the recording:** this is done visually by means of light-emitting diodes in the viewfinder and on the front of the camera (monitor-light) and acoustically with earphones, whether the camera is running or not.

As well as many other valuable features:

• manual or automatic diaphragm setting (TTL measurement) • remote control either from the microphone or by means of an accessory cable (supplied separately) • synchro-flash socket • shutter opening to 220° • counter with mobile scale adjustable to any starting point • possibility of using Super 8 silent cartridges, etc.



f = 60 mm



f = 15 mm



f = 7.5 mm



f = 4 mm

How the two models differ

Bolex 583 Sound Macro-Zoom
• 8× zoom
• 7.5–60 mm f/1.7 lens

Bolex 563XL Sound Macro-Zoom
• 6× zoom
• 8–48 mm f/1.2 lens; the f/1.2 aperture makes it possible to film in very poor lighting conditions without the need for auxiliary lighting (XL).



Technical specifications*

***Note:** these technical specifications apply to both the Bolex 583 and 563XL Sound Macro-Zoom cameras; features concerning only one or other of the two models are printed in italics.

Type. Super 8 sound camera for Super 8 sound or silent film in 50 ft. cartridges.

Lens. Bolex Macro-Zoom lens, *7.5–60 mm f/1.7 (for 583), 8–48 mm f/1.2 (for 563XL)*. Focusing from 1.5 m to infinity. Minimum filming distance in macro position: 2 cm. Two-speed power zoom.

Viewfinder. Reflex viewfinder with focusing by split-image rangefinder. Signals in the viewfinder: diaphragm scale with *under-exposure zone (for 583)*, *over-exposure zone, under-exposure (for 563XL)*, film advance, recording check, universal setting, picture and sound dissolve.

Eyepiece. Adjustable eyepiece with swivelling rubber eyecup and stray light prevention shutter.

Exposure. Automatic diaphragm setting with through-the-lens light measurement; possibility of manual setting. Sensitivity: 25–160 ASA / 15–23 DIN. Correction of exposure level: ± 1 f-stop. Back light control. Built-in conversion filter, retracted by knob.

Sound recording. Built-in amplifier powered by the motor batteries. Automatic or manual adjustment of the sound level. Checking the recording by luminous signals in the viewfinder and on the front of the camera (monitor-light) and by earphones. Two microphone inputs with automatic direct mixing of the two sound signals. Microphone plugs into camera body. Remote control from the microphone or by cable (accessories supplied separately).

Power supply. General power supply by 6 AA type 1.5 V alkaline batteries. Signal indicates state of charge of batteries.

Speeds. Speeds of 18 and 24 frames per second + single-frame filming for silent and sound films; speed of 36 frames per second for silent films only.

Fade-ins and fade-outs: picture alone, sound alone, or picture and sound simultaneously.

Picture and sound dissolves. These can be produced simply by turning a knob (only with a sound film cartridge): automatic stopping of the camera and rewinding of the film. Picture and sound dissolves can be produced at 18 and 24 frames per second and even during single-frame filming.

Built-in timer. This permits single-frame filming at intervals adjustable from 1 to 60 seconds, as well as automatic release at normal speed with preselection of the length of takes.

Other features. Shutter opening to 220°. Continuous filming by locking the release. Synchro-flash socket. Footage counter. Front thread M 58 × 0.75. 1/4" thread for mounting camera on a tripod.

Dimensions: *241 × 218 × 73 mm (for 583); 226 × 218 × 73 mm (for 563XL)*.

Weight: *1.6 kg (for 583); 1.5 kg (for 563XL)*.

Accessories

Accessories supplied with the camera

1 Aspheron super wide-angle optical accessory, 1 directional microphone with condenser and windscreen, 1 ear-phone, 1 hand-strap, 1 rubber eyecup, 1 lens cap.

Accessories supplied separately to order

Omnidirectional microphone with windscreen and 15 ft. cable.

Extension cable, 15 ft. long, for microphone.

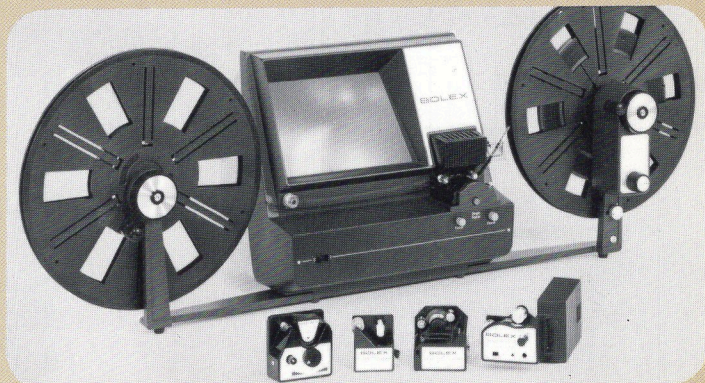
Electric remote control cable, 20 ft. long.

Carrying case, rigid with padded interior and shoulder strap. It both protects your camera and makes it easy to carry when travelling. Space provided for one or two cartridges of film and accessories.

Monopod: small, light and very handy, it ensures excellent camera steadiness.

Bolex dual splicer, for Super 8 and Normal 8 films, makes bevelled splices which pass very smoothly through the projection gate.

Bolex adhesive tape splicer for Super 8 and Single 8 films. This simple and precise splicer uses extremely strong transparent adhesive tape to splice not only Super 8 films but also Single 8 films which cannot be spliced in the ordinary way, by scraping the emulsion and partly dissolving the backing. The Bolex tape splicer also makes it possible to repair broken films without having to discard two frames.



Bolex V 240 and V 240 M viewers.

The Bolex V240 viewer, for triacetate-backed Super 8 or Single 8 films on reels up to 800 ft., is available in two versions:

- model V240, with manual film advance;
- model V240 M, with motorized film advance.

Both viewers share the following advantages in common:

- the 16-faceted rotating prism with which they are equipped makes it possible to obtain pictures practically free from flicker;
 - the large screen (150×110 mm) ensures comfortable viewing.
- Accessories available separately: sound reader (for finding the beginning or end of the recorded sound), frame counter, film cleaner, Sound Fader (for the total or gradual erase of a given portion of the sound recorded on the magnetic stripe of the film, or a gradual fade-out —fade-in).

Quality and reliability

Bolex products are manufactured with the utmost care and subjected to rigorous tests before leaving the factory. They therefore meet the highest standards of precision and quality for which the name of Bolex is world renowned. Choose Bolex and you can be certain of owning an instrument that is utterly reliable. With its international organization, Bolex offers you impeccable after-sales service the world over. You can entrust your equipment with complete confidence to any Bolex distributor, most of whom employ highly skilled technicians specially trained in Switzerland.


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