The Lean Years

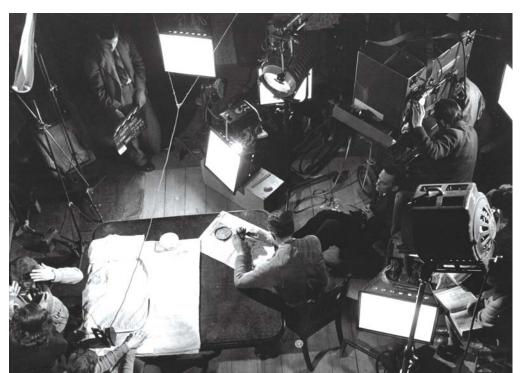
From *Summertime* in Venice to *Lawrence of Arabia* in the desert,
David Lean was one of film's greatest visual storytellers. Here's
a glimpse at how the magic happened.



ORDERED CHAOS: Lean (on crane) is the calm in the center of the desert storm as he orchestrates a cast of thousands and a few dozen camels on the set of *Lawrence of Arabia* (1962). (Above) Portrait of the artist as a young man in 1946 while filming *Great Expectations*.







on the BEACH: Lean demonstrates how he wants Sarah Miles to walk with her parasol in a scene from *Ryan's Daughter* (1970), filmed on the Dingle Peninsula in western Ireland.

tights! Action!: The setup for an intimate scene in *The Happy Breed* (1944), Lean's second film, based on a play by Noel Coward about life in Britain between the wars. The director is seated at the right.

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences



on schedule: Lean seems pleased with Julie Christie's performance as she emerges from a trolley during the filming of Doctor Zhivago (1965). The film was shot in Finland and Spain, filling in for pre-revolution Russia.



TUNDRA TAKE: From the crane, the director leads a battalion of Russian soldiers in the middle of nowhere in a typical Lean composition from *Doctor Zhivago*.

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THE POINT IS: Sir David explaining exactly what he wants to Dame Peggy Ashcroft (left) and Judy Davis in a crowd scene from *A Passage to India* (1984), filmed on location in India and at Shepperton Studios in England.



marching orders: Lean prepares a long tracking shot in the desert on Lawrence of Arabia. Almost all movement in the film goes from left to right because he wanted to emphasize that the story was a journey.

CIAO, KATARINA: Lean and Katharine Hepburn go over her pages before a take on *Summertime*, filmed on location in Venice (1955). The picture was Lean's first filmed on an exotic foreign site.







MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN:

Shooting in the heat of the Sri Lankan jungle, Lean (on box) directs a rag-tag band of POWs during World War II in *The Bridge* on the River Kwai (1957).



TOP OF THE WORLD:

Lean (far left) and crew members survey the scene from atop the dome of St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, overlooking St. Mark's Square, during the filming of Summertime.

