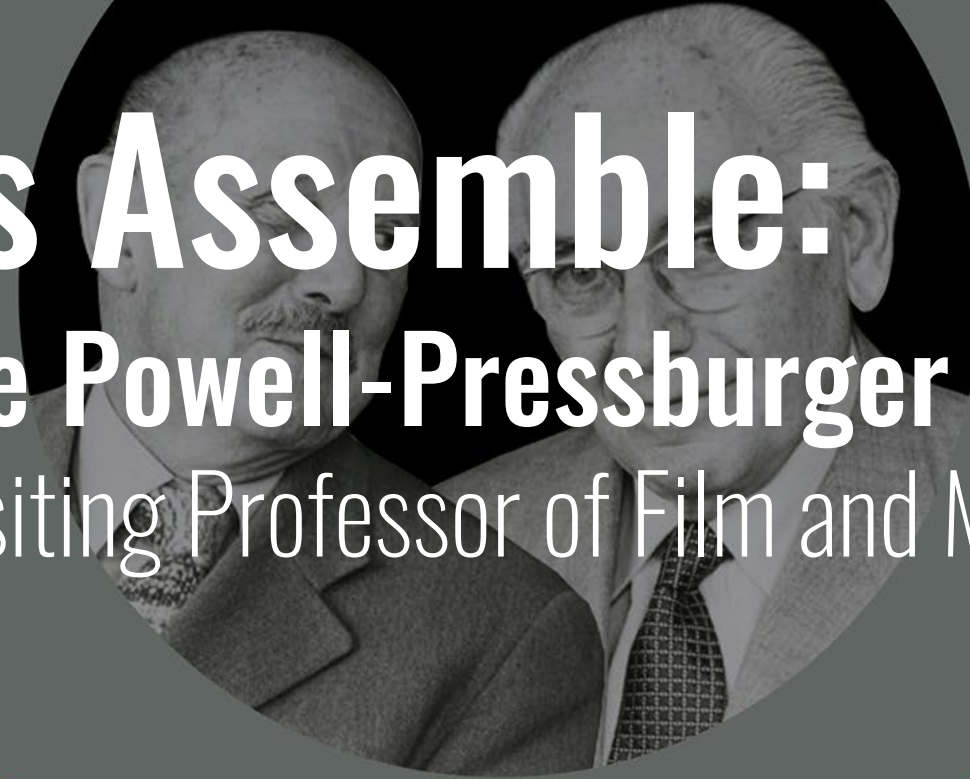




# **Archers Assemble:** **Creating the Powell-Pressburger Partnership**

Ian Christie, Visiting Professor of Film and Media History



# The Worlds of Powell and Pressburger

Archers assemble: creating the Powell-Pressburger partnership

Ian Christie

# The Worlds of Powell and Pressburger

Archers assemble: creating the Powell-Pressburger partnership

Ian Christie









You and I know what it means...  
The only secret is that we are  
amateurs. Telling a story is not a  
business. It is an art, and we are  
different from other artists because  
we were left alone by Arthur Rank  
for ten years to go our own sweet  
way, thinking we were  
professionals.

Michael Powell, *Million Dollar Movie*



Nr. 1191 **Ausweis**

nur gültig als T- Kontrolle der

Universum-Film A.-G.

für Herrn Emmerich  
Pressburger

Abtlg. IIA Spielfilm  
(Lektor. u. Dram.)

ausgestellt: 2.7.30





Nr. 1191 **Ausweis**

nur gültig als T- Kontrolle der

Universum-Film A.-G.

für Herrn Emmerich

Pressburger

Abtlg. ITA Spielfilm

ausgeste



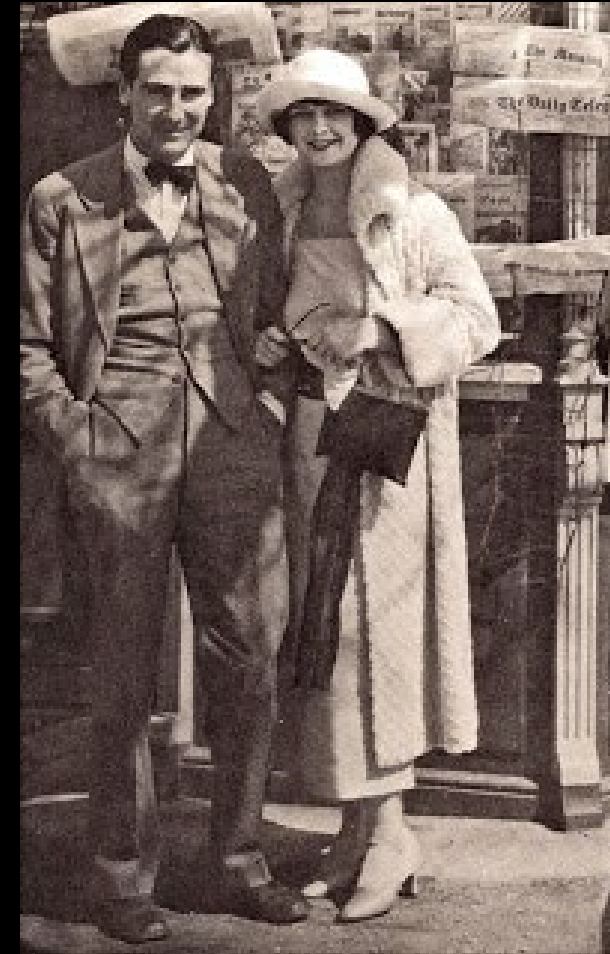


Emeric Pressburger in Paris, and poster for the Spanish version of one of his French films, *La Vie Parisienne* (dir. Robert Siodmak)



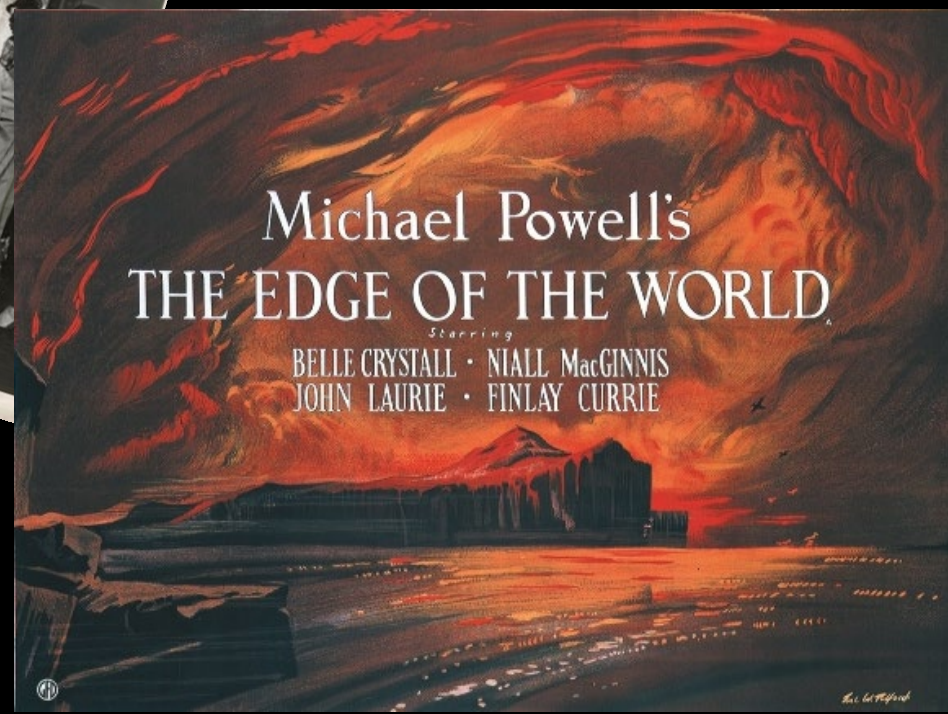
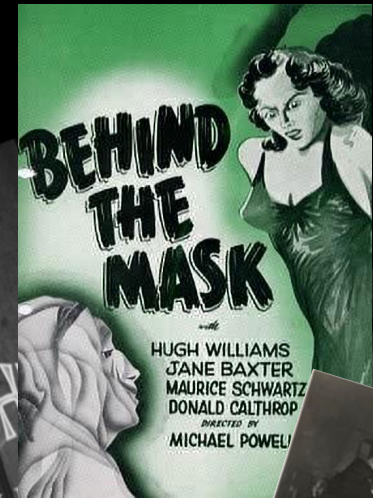






The young Michael Powell got a start in film through an introduction to Rex Ingram, here with his wife and star Alice Terry, then working for Metro at the Victorine Studios in Nice





Conrad VEIDT

DANS

# L'ESPION NOIR

avec  
Valérie HOBSON  
Sébastien SHAW  
Marius GORING  
*Production IRVING ASHER  
Mise en Scène de MICHAEL POWELL*







Powell and Pressburger after finishing **The Spy in Black**, set around Scaapa Flow, Orkney





Premiere of the first BFI-sponsored restoration of **The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp**, Screen on the Hill 1985

## The Museum of Modern Art

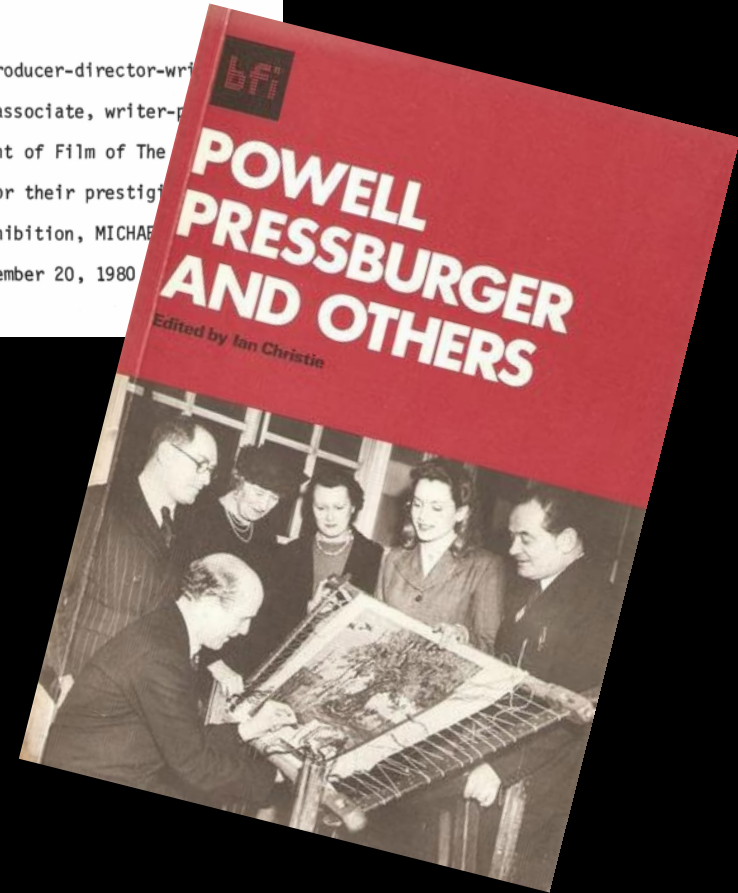
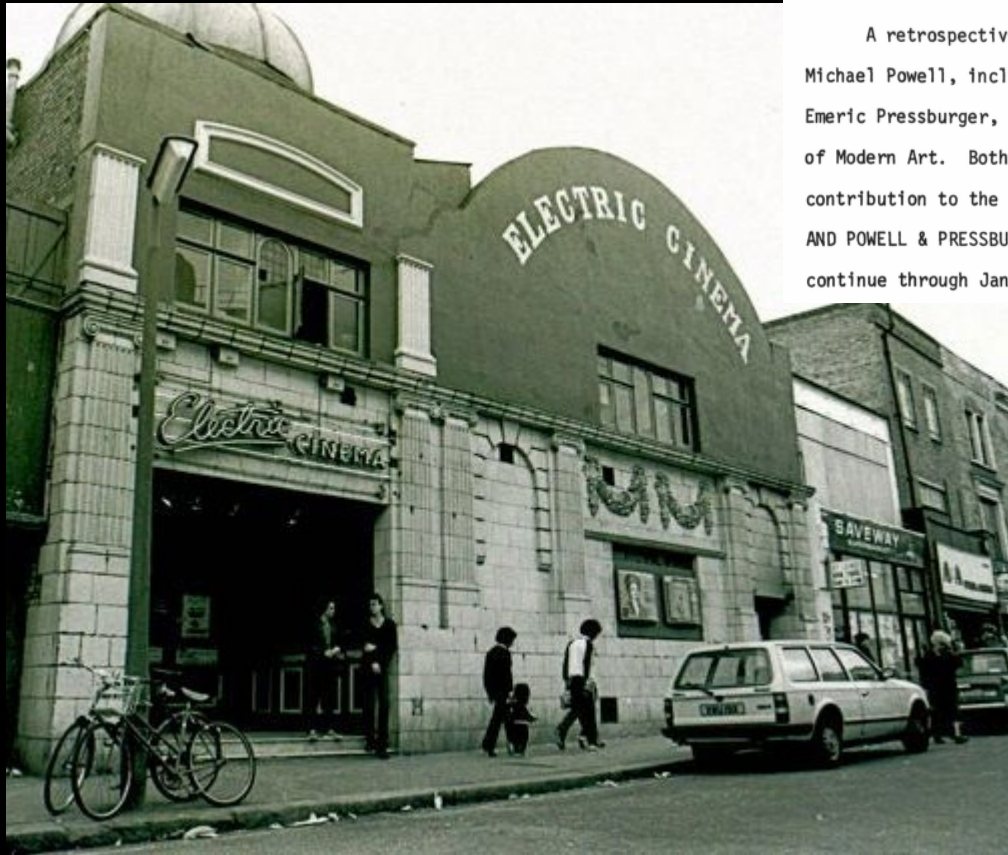
50th Anniversary



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
NO. 57

MICHAEL POWELL FILM RETROSPECTIVE  
OPENS AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

A retrospective of the films of noted British producer-director-writer Michael Powell, including his work with his longtime associate, writer-producer Emeric Pressburger, will be presented by the Department of Film of The Museum of Modern Art. Both have been critically acclaimed for their prestigious contribution to the art of the cinema. This major exhibition, MICHAEL POWELL AND POWELL & PRESSBURGER, will be shown beginning November 20, 1980 and continue through January 5, 1981.



## The wartime films:

Contraband (1940)

49<sup>th</sup> Parallel (1941)

One of Our Aircraft is Missing (1942)

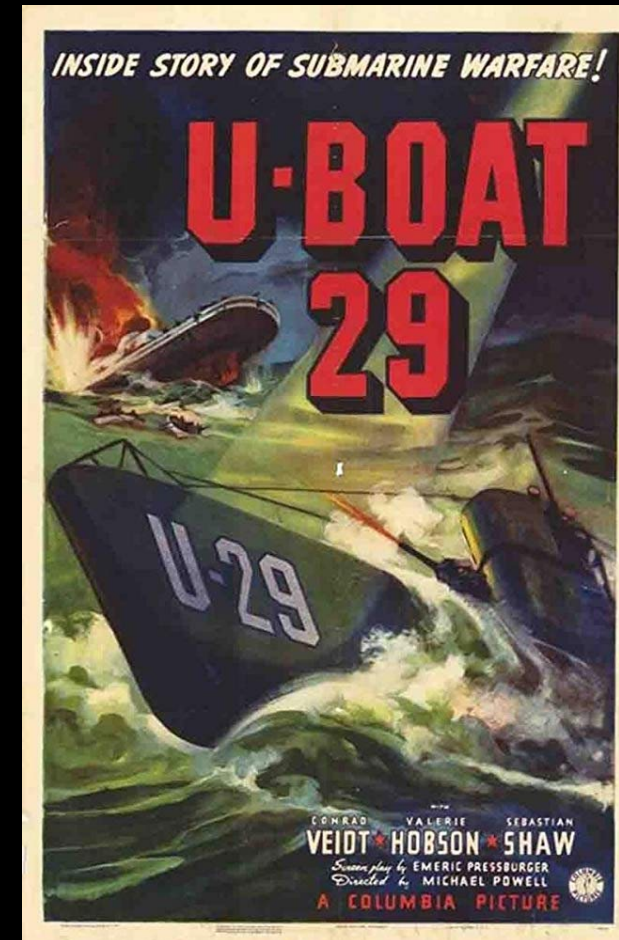
The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp (1943)

The Volunteer (1943)

A Canterbury Tale (1944)

I Know Where I'm Going! (1945)

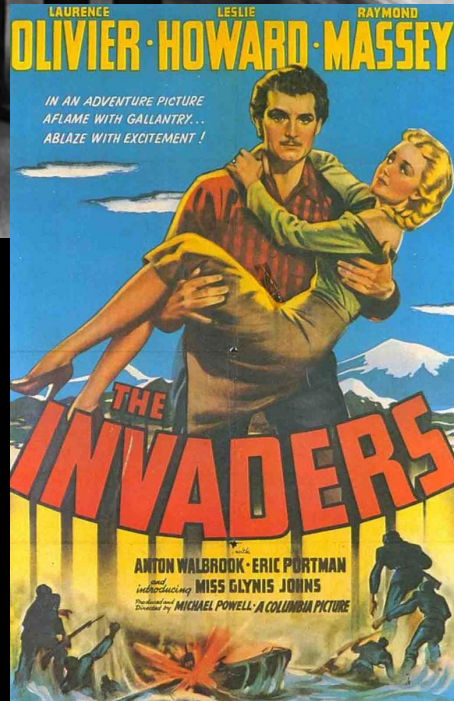
A Matter of Life and Death (1946)







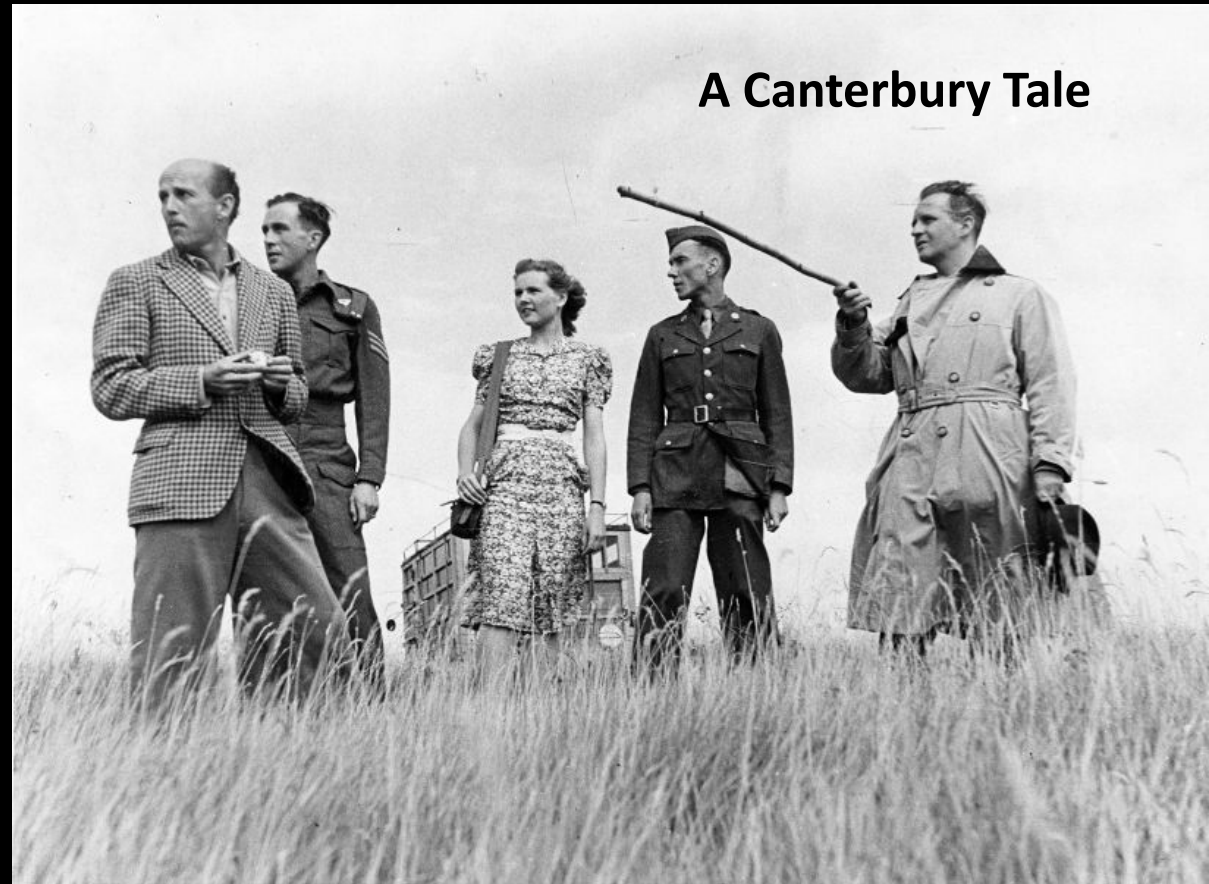
49<sup>th</sup> Parallel













Launder and Gilliat; John and Roy Boulting; Muriel Box, with husband Sidney and sister-in-law Betty Box



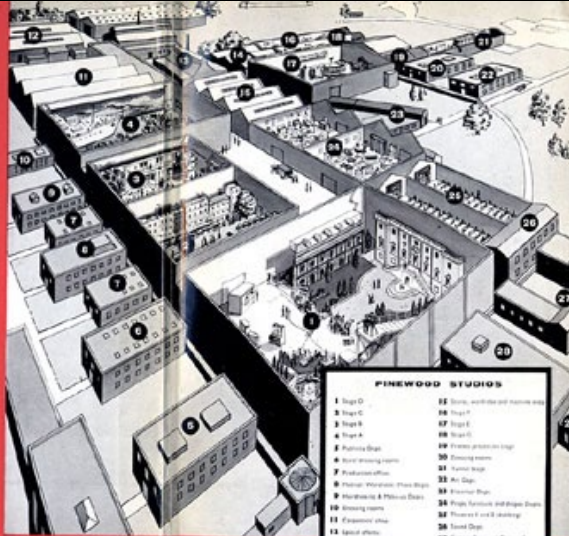




The  
Leading  
Centre  
of  
Film  
Production  
in  
Europe

**PINEWOOD STUDIOS**

THE RANK ORGANISATION



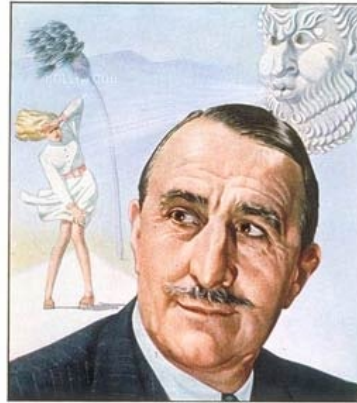
**PINEWOOD STUDIOS**

- |                                  |                                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Stage D                        | 22 Studio, wardrobe and hairdressing |
| 2 Stage C                        | 23 Stage F                           |
| 3 Stage B                        | 24 Stage E                           |
| 4 Stage A                        | 25 Studio                            |
| 5 Picture Shop                   | 26 Screen projection stage           |
| 6 Sound mixing rooms             | 27 Dressing rooms                    |
| 7 Production office              | 28 Screen stage                      |
| 8 Picture Warehouse (Photo Dept) | 29 Art Shop                          |
| 9 Workshop & Picture Store       | 30 Screen Shop                       |
| 10 Dressing rooms                | 31 Stage Services and Stage Shop     |
| 11 Executive office              | 32 Screen & cost & dressing          |
| 12 Special effects               | 33 Screen Shop                       |
| 13 Art photography laboratory    | 34 Screen Shop and Project 3         |
| 14 Motor house                   | 35 Screen stage                      |
| 15 Production shop               | 36 Screen & cost & dressing          |

Iver Heath, Buckinghamshire (Tevr 700)

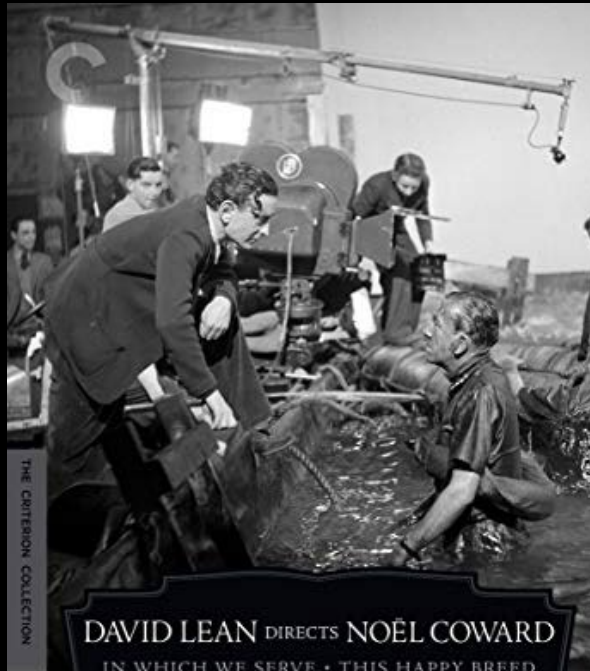
**TIME**

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE



J. ARTHUR RANK

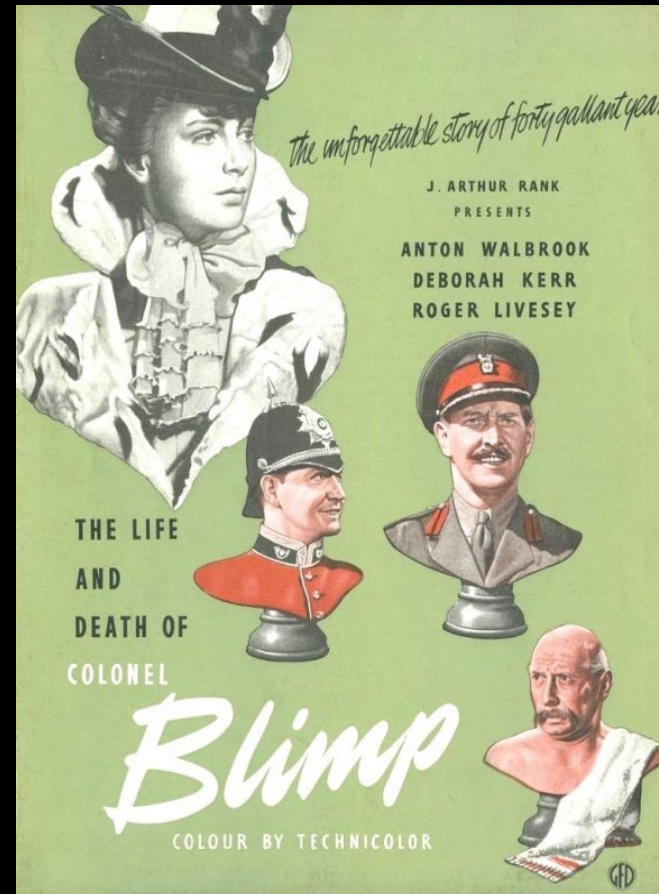
The sun never sets on the man with the gang.  
(Business)



DAVID LEAN DIRECTS NOËL COWARD

IN WHICH WE SERVE • THIS HAPPY BREED  
BLITHE SPIRIT • BRIEF ENCOUNTER





Extravagance or efficiency? Gabriel Pascal's Shaw adaptations were costly, while The Archers' mid-40s films were reasonably budgeted – and popular.

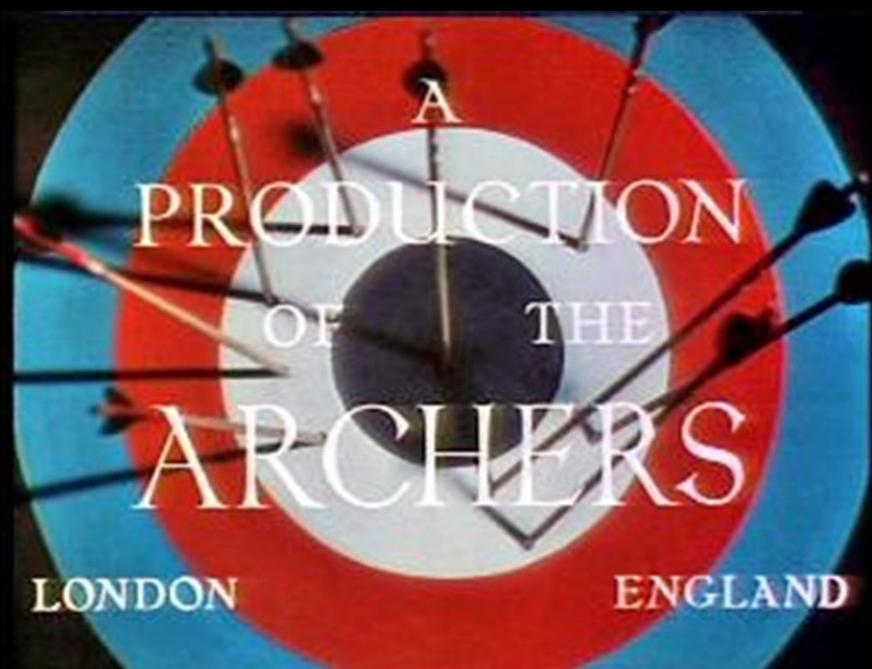


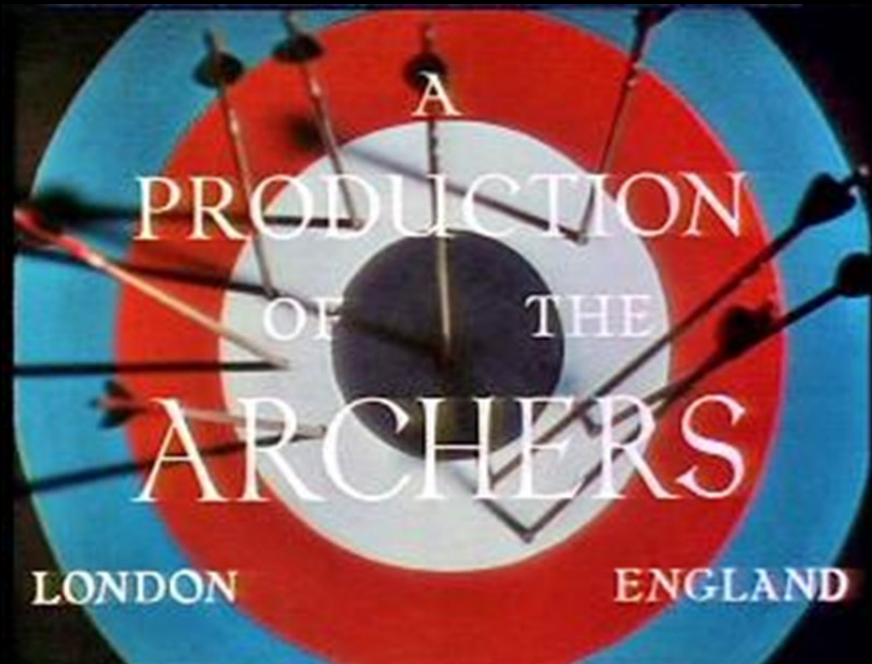
Arthur Rank visits the set of **Black Narcissus**  
at Pinewood Studios



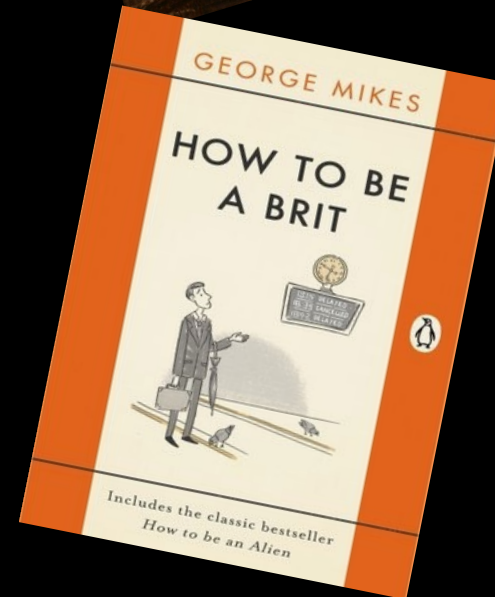


**A Canterbury Tale** followed three modern wartime 'pilgrims' to Canterbury Cathedral. And **A Matter of Life and Death** included John Bunyan in its cast of 'heavenly' characters

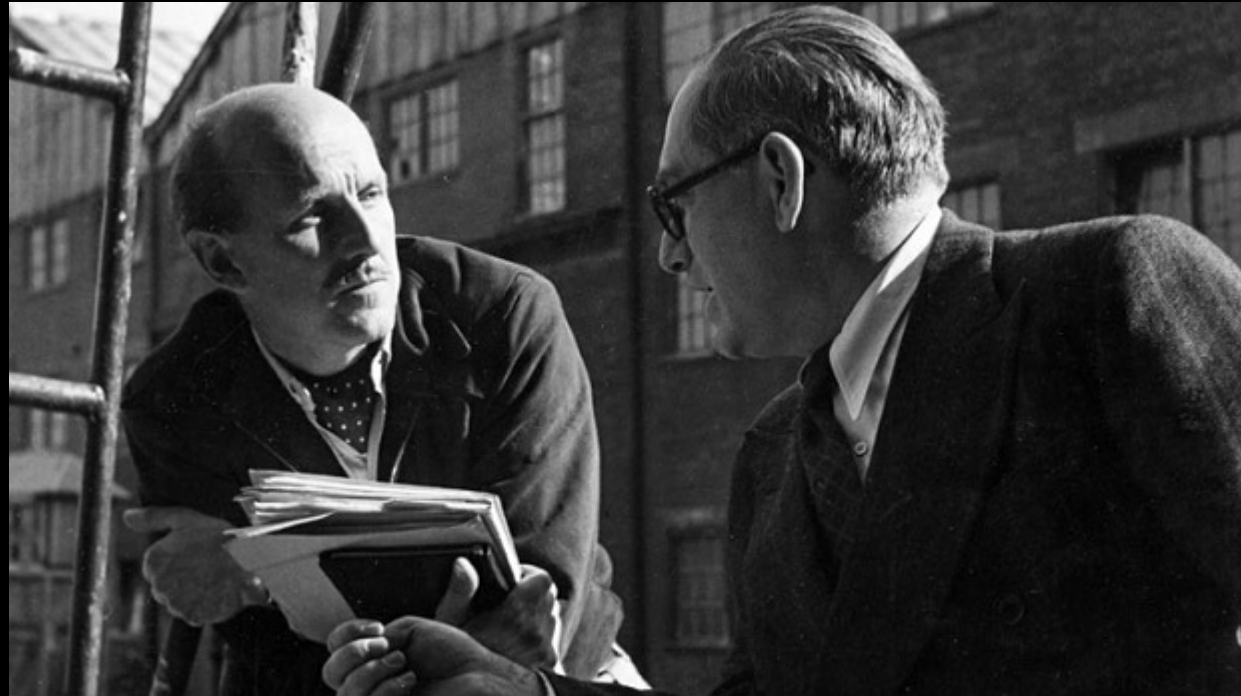
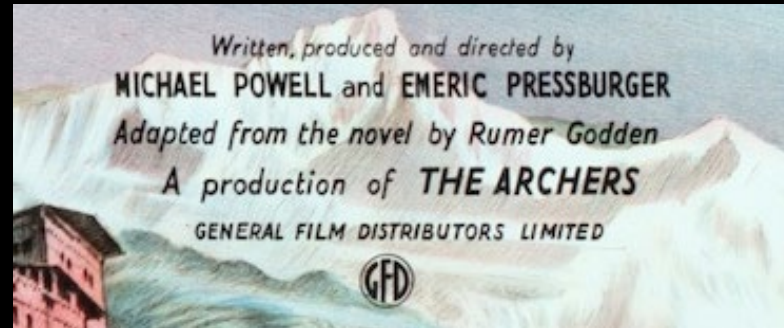




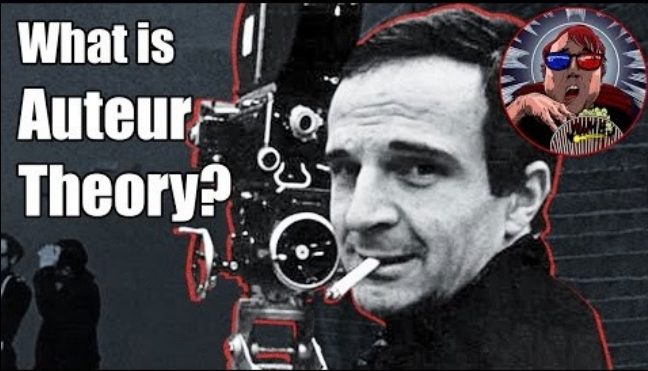
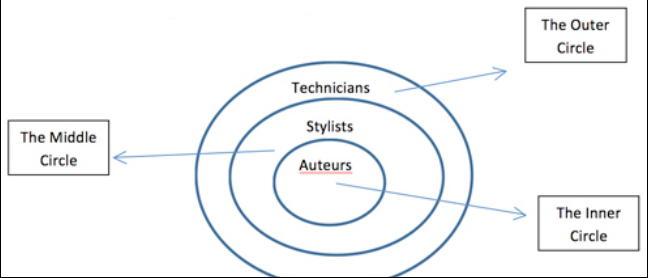
And what should they know of  
England who only England know?  
– Kipling, 'The English Flag'











# La cinémathèque française

HOMMAGE A MICHAEL POWELL ET EMERIC PRESSBURGER  
3 au 22 février 1981

Day	Time	Category	Program
Mercredi 3	20H30	/CH/	GALA ° RED SHOES + C.M.
Mercredi 4	17H00	/BG/	° PHANTOM LIGHT
Jeudi 5	17H00	/BG/	° RED ENSIGN
Vendredi 6	17H00	/BG/	° SOMETHING ALWAYS HAPPENS
			° CANTERBURY TALE

Schedule subject to change without notice.

## The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

MICHAEL POWELL  
and  
POWELL & PRESSBURGER  
November 20, 1980 - January 5, 1981

Film Title (Year)	Screening Dates and Times
RETURN TO THE EDGE OF THE WORLD (1978)	Thursday, November 20 at 6:00 Friday, November 21 at 2:30
A CANTERBURY TALE (1944)	Thursday, November 20 at 8:30 Saturday, November 22 at 5:00
THE LIFE AND DEATH OF COLONEL BLIMP (1943)	Friday, November 21 at 6:00 Sunday, November 23 at 2:00
I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING (1945)	Saturday, November 22 at 2:30 Thursday, November 27 at 2:30
THE WORLD (1937)	Sunday, November 23 at 5:00 Tuesday, November 25 at 2:30

