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INTRODUCTION BY THOMAS DOHERTY

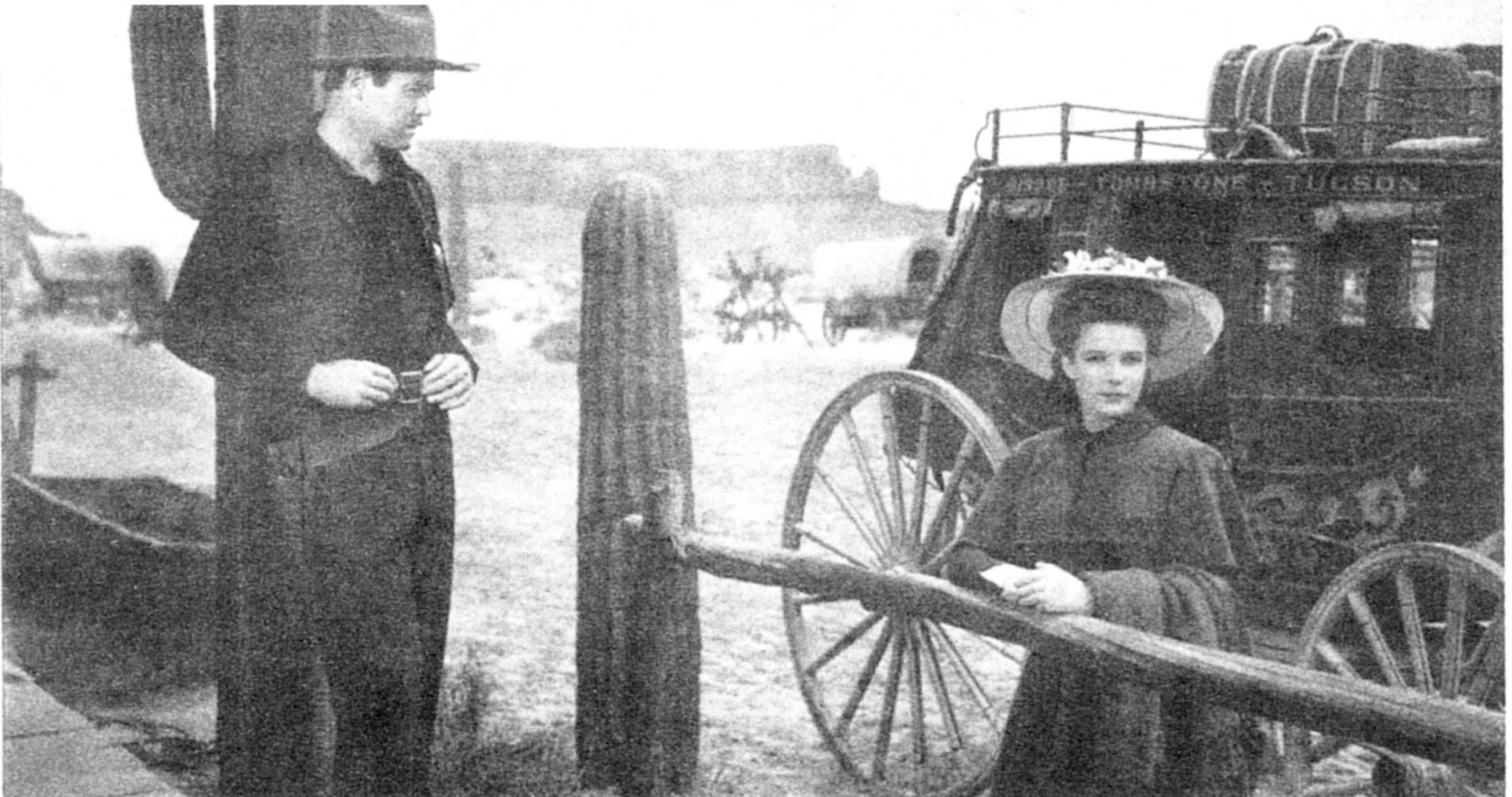
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

FRIDAY MARCH 12 AT 7PM

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Ford's overripe, almost operatic retelling of the shootout at the O.K. Corral embodies the classic Western narrative of the rule of law inexorably taming the frontier against the violence of the primal horde. The brawling brood of brothers presided over by their rabid patriarch – played with vicious authenticity by Walter Brennan – is contrasted with the virile but peaceable Earps, lead by brother Wyatt, as they bring order to Tombstone. Somewhere between these two camps is the melancholy Doc Holliday, a Romantic figure who soulfully quotes Shakespeare and seems fated to an early death from tuberculosis. Fonda's Wyatt Earp, by contrast, embodies a new modernity for the West, taciturn and efficient. Placing the greater good against individual satisfaction, he suborns his feelings to duty instead of wearing his heart on his sleeve. At the literal and figurative heart of the film is a classic Fordian sequence – a dance that brings the fledgling community together to raise funds to build a church.

Directed by John Ford. With Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell, Victor Mature
US 1946, 35mm, b/w, 97 min.



JOHN FORD MY DARLINE CLEMENTINE 1946