One of the advancements was the special effects. Which made people wonder how they did it. Some critics thought they were bad effects for a space movie

The film is still apart of people's lives, it is constantly mentioned, and similar scenes in different movies, hinting to the movie.

The special effects were supervised by Kubrick himself, they made it exactly how he wanted it. They had an extensive use of front projection, a technique where photography is projected from the front of the set onto a reflective surface.

Some, when they first saw the movie were baffled. It lacked traditional plot structure, so you couldn't predict some events that were going to happen.