

NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

XIAN ZHANG MUSIC DIRECTOR



S S RAJAMOULI'S

Baahubali

THE BEGINNING

LIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Jersey Symphony Presents the North American Premiere of *Baahubali: The Beginning Live* in Concert

July 27 at NJPAC in Newark
July 28 at State Theatre in New Brunswick

NEWARK, NJ—Experience India's biggest box-office smash-hit, *Baahubali: The Beginning* on a vast HD screen while a full orchestra performs M.M. Keeravani's epic score, live in-sync with the motion picture.

Baahubali: The Beginning tells the story of a young orphan, Shivudu (Prabhas), as he embarks on a journey of a lifetime. Falling in love with the vision of a fearless warrior, Avantika (Tamannaah), he follows her on a mission to rescue her Queen from captivity in a neighboring kingdom. On this mission in Mahishmati, he encounters Kattappa (Satyaraj), a slave warrior and a confidante of the Mahishmati Royal Family. Through him Shivudu learns the truth of his family and the injustice imparted to them. He takes on the tyrannical ruler in a battle of mythical magnitude to restore to the kingdom their true King.

“Wide-eyed and wondrous, his film could be a blockbuster reboot, or the first blockbuster ever made. A reinvigoration of archetypes that is always entertaining, and often thrilling, to behold.” –*The Guardian*

“It’s possible to enjoy the film as pure entertainment even without being privy to the superlatives surrounding it.” –*The Hollywood Reporter*

Tickets are available now at njsymphony.org/baahubali.

Please note: This film will be shown in Hindi with English subtitles.

“Baahubali: The Beginning” film licensed by Arka Media Works. Producers: Shobu Yarlagadda and Prasad Devineni.

Presentation/Baahubali: The Beginning is a production of Avex Classics International.

Baahubali The Beginning Live in Concert **North American Premiere! | New Jersey Symphony at the Movies**

Newark → Saturday, July 27, 2024, 7:30 pm, New Jersey Performing Arts Center

New Brunswick → Sunday, July 28, 2024, 3 pm, State Theatre New Jersey

Constantine Kitsopoulos conductor
New Jersey Symphony

Constantine Kitsopoulos

Constantine Kitsopoulos has established himself as a dynamic conductor known for his ability to work in many different genres and settings. He is equally at home with opera, symphonic repertoire, film with live orchestra, music theatre and composition. His work has taken him all over the world where he has conducted the major orchestras of North America, the Hong Kong Philharmonic and the Tokyo Philharmonic.

In addition to Kitsopoulos’ engagements as guest conductor, he is music director of the Festival of the Arts Boca and general director of Chatham Opera. He is general director of the New York Grand Opera and is working with the company to bring opera, free and open to the public, back to New York’s Central Park.

During the 2023–2024 season Kitsopoulos will conduct return engagements with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Pacific, New Jersey, Toronto, Detroit, Chicago, Santa Barbara and San Francisco symphonies.

Highlights of previous seasons include return engagements with the Dallas Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, San Francisco Symphony, Houston Symphony, Toronto Symphony, Vancouver Symphony and New York Philharmonic. Kitsopoulos also conducted Leonard Bernstein’s *Candide* at Indiana University Opera Theatre.

Kitsopoulos' has developed semi-staged productions of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, for which he has written a new translation, *Don Giovanni* and *La Bohème*. He has conducted IU Opera Theatre's productions of *Mass*, *Falstaff*, *Die Fledermaus*, *A View from the Bridge*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Most Happy Fella*, *South Pacific*, *Oklahoma*, *The Music Man* and *The Last Savage*. He was Assistant Chorus Master at New York City Opera from 1984–1989.

On Broadway Kitsopoulos has been Music Director of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, *The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess* (cast album on PS Classics), *A Catered Affair* (cast album on PS Classics), *Coram Boy*, Baz Luhrmann's production of Puccini's *La Bohème* (cast album on DreamWorks Records), *Swan Lake* and *Les Misérables*. He was Music Director of ACT's production of Weill/Brecht's *Happy End* and made the only English language recording of the piece for Sh-K-Boom Records.

Kitsopoulos studied piano with Marienka Michna, Chandler Gregg, Edward Edson and Sophia Rosoff. He studied conducting with Semyon Bychkov, Sergiu Commissiona, Gustav Meier and his principal teacher Vincent La Selva.

New Jersey Symphony

The Emmy and GRAMMY Award-winning New Jersey Symphony is redefining what it means to be a nationally leading, relevant orchestra in the 21st century. The Symphony is renewing its deeply rooted commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion by championing new, and often local, artists; engaging audiences for whom the inspiring depth and breadth of classical music will be a new experience; and incorporating the broadest possible representation in all aspects of our organization—all to better reflect and serve our vibrant communities. Since 2021, Music Director Xian Zhang has worked together with composer, violinist, educator and social-justice advocate Daniel Bernard Roumain, the orchestra's Resident Artistic Catalyst, to offer programming that connects with diverse communities in Newark and throughout New Jersey.

Internationally renowned Chinese American conductor Xian Zhang began her tenure as the New Jersey Symphony's current music director in 2016. Since her arrival at the New Jersey Symphony, Zhang has revitalized programming with an industry-leading commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion in mainstage concerts.

For more information about the New Jersey Symphony, visit njsymphony.org or email information@njsymphony.org. Tickets are available for purchase by phone 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) or on the Orchestra's website.

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