

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NJSO presents *Raiders of the Lost Ark* with live orchestral accompaniment



**NJSO performs John Williams' epic film score live at screening
of Steven Spielberg's classic Indiana Jones adventure**

NJSO Accents include 'Inside Indy' pre-concert events

State Theatre New Jersey co-presents New Brunswick performance

Fri, Jan 6, at Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank

Sat, Jan 7, at NJPAC in Newark

Sun, Jan 8, at State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

NEWARK, NJ (November 16, 2016)—The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra presents *Raiders of the Lost Ark* with live orchestral accompaniment, January 6–8 in Red Bank, Newark and New Brunswick. The Orchestra performs John Williams' epic score as the film Roger Ebert called "a movie of glorious imagination and breakneck speed" screens above the stage. Steven Spielberg's timeless classic sees Harrison Ford's Indiana Jones on a quest to recover the legendary Ark of the Covenant and save the world. Constantine Kitsopoulos conducts.

Performances take place on Friday, January 6, at 8 pm at the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank; Saturday, January 7, at 8 pm at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark; and Sunday, January 8, at 3 pm at the State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick. The January 8 performance is presented in collaboration with the State Theatre New Jersey.

Composer John Williams writes: “In creating the character Indiana Jones, George Lucas and Steven Spielberg introduced an enduring and much-loved figure into the pantheon of fictional movie heroes. *Raiders of the Lost Ark* was illuminated by the superb comedy-action performance of Harrison Ford and enlivened by the spirited direction of Steven Spielberg.

“Speaking for myself, I must say that the experience of composing the music for this film, and for the subsequent installments in the series, was a very happy one, and it offered me a wild and truly joyous ride. I’m especially delighted that the magnificent New Jersey Symphony Orchestra has agreed to perform the music in live presentations of the movie.

“I know I speak for everyone connected with the making of *Raiders* in saying that we are greatly honored by this event ... and I hope that this weekend’s audiences will experience some measure of the joy and fun we did when making the film 35 years ago.”

Highlighting the rise of film concerts among American orchestras, *The Star-Ledger* writes: “musicians, conductors and audiences are becoming more accustomed to experiencing film music in concert halls. And orchestras are increasingly looking to the great film scores of yore to appeal to both music aficionados and symphony newbies alike.” These performances continue the NJSO’s tradition of live film score programs, following performances of *Home Alone*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Singin’ in the Rain*, the music of James Bond and more in recent seasons.

NJSO Accent festivities include “Inside Indy” events before the January 7 and 8 performances, free to ticketholders. Audiences will hear fun trivia and stories about the classic film trilogy and the man who portrays Indy on the big screen from *Cinema Retro* publisher and film expert Lee Pfeiffer. Additional information about this season’s NJSO Accent events is available at www.njsymphony.org/accent.

TICKETS

Concert tickets start at \$20. Tickets for all performances are available from the NJSO online at www.njsymphony.org, by phone at 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) or in person. The NJSO Patron Services office is located at 60 Park Place, 9th floor, in Newark; tickets are available by phone or in person Monday–Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, and concert Saturdays, 11 am to 5 pm.

Tickets for the January 8 performance are also available at the State Theatre New Jersey ticket office online at www.StateTheatreNJ.org, by phone at 732.246.SHOW (7469) or in person. The State Theatre New Jersey ticket office is located at 15 Livingston Ave in New Brunswick—hours are Monday–Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 1 to 5 pm, and at least three hours prior to curtain on performance dates unless otherwise specified.

Full information on the NJSO’s five-concert 2016–17 Pops series is available at www.njsymphony.org/pops.

CONCERT PROGRAM

Raiders of the Lost Ark with the NJSO

Friday, January 6, at 8 pm | Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank

Saturday, January 7, at 8 pm | NJPAC in Newark

Sunday, January 8, at 3 pm | State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor
New Jersey Symphony Orchestra

The January 8 performance is presented in collaboration with State Theatre New Jersey.

Additional information is available at www.njsymphony.org/events/detail/raiders-of-the-lost-ark-with-njs.

NJSO ACCENTS

Designed to inspire audiences, NJSO Accents are pre- or post-concert events that complement the concert experience and provide audience members with more opportunities to personally connect with the music and music makers.

Inside Indy – Sat, Jan 7, and Sun, Jan 8, one hour before the concert

Get the inside scoop on Indiana Jones! Hear fun trivia and stories about the classic film trilogy and the man who portrays Indy on the big screen from *Cinema Retro* publisher and film expert Lee Pfeiffer, co-author of “The Films of Harrison Ford.” Free for ticketholders.

Learn more at www.njsymphony.org/accents.

The Prudential Foundation sponsors NJSO Accent events in Newark.

THE ARTISTS

John Williams, composer

In a career spanning five decades, John Williams has become one of America’s most accomplished and successful composers for film and for the concert stage, and he remains one of our nation’s most distinguished and contributive musical voices. He has composed the music for more than 100 films, including all seven *Star Wars* films, the first three *Harry Potter* films, *Superman*, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, *Home Alone* and *The Book Thief*. His 40-year artistic partnership with director Steven Spielberg has resulted in many of Hollywood’s most acclaimed and successful films, including *Schindler’s List*, *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, *Jaws*, *Jurassic Park*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, the *Indiana Jones* films, *Saving Private Ryan* and *Lincoln*.

Williams has composed themes for four Olympic Games. He served as music director of the Boston Pops Orchestra for 14 seasons and remains their laureate conductor. He has composed numerous works for the concert stage, including two symphonies and concertos commissioned by many of America’s most prominent orchestras. Williams has received five Academy Awards and 50 Oscar nominations (making him the second-most nominated person in the history of the Oscars), seven British Academy Awards, 22 Grammys, four Golden Globes and five Emmys. In 2003, he received the Olympic Order (the IOC’s highest honor) for his contributions to the Olympic movement. In 2004, he received the Kennedy Center Honors, and in 2009, he received the National Medal of Arts, the highest award given to artists by the US Government. In 2016, he received the 44th Life Achievement Award from the American Film Institute—the first time a composer was honored with this award.

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Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor

Constantine Kitsopoulos is a conductor whose musical experiences comfortably span the worlds of opera, symphony and musical theater. The 2016–17 season will mark his seventh as music director of the Festival of the Arts BOCA. He was artistic director of the OK Mozart Festival from 2013–15 and spent eight years as music director of the Queens Symphony Orchestra. His schedule includes return engagements with the New Jersey, Baltimore, Vancouver and Detroit symphony orchestras; Philadelphia Orchestra; Louisiana and Calgary philharmonics and Symphony Silicon Valley. He also makes debuts with the Pacific and Fort Worth symphonies and the Boston Pops Orchestra.

He returns to Indiana Opera Theatre to lead its production of *The Music Man* and to New York University to conduct three different programs with its orchestras. In addition to his work as a conductor, Kitsopoulos makes his debut as a composer at Michigan State University with a workshop of a new musical theater piece, *Temple*.

NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Named “a vital, artistically significant musical organization” by *The Wall Street Journal*, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra embodies that vitality through its statewide presence and critically acclaimed performances, education partnerships and unparalleled access to music and the Orchestra’s superb musicians.

The NJSO welcomes new Music Director Xian Zhang in the 2016–17 season. The Orchestra presents classical, pops and family programs, as well as outdoor summer concerts and special events. Embracing its legacy as a statewide orchestra, the NJSO is the resident orchestra of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark and regularly performs at the State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick, Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, Richardson Auditorium in Princeton, Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown and bergenPAC in Englewood. Partnerships with New Jersey arts organizations, universities and civic organizations remain a key element of the Orchestra’s statewide identity.

In addition to its lauded artistic programming, the NJSO presents a suite of education and community engagement programs that promote meaningful, lifelong engagement with live music. Programs include school-time Concerts for Young People performances, NJSO Youth Orchestras family of student ensembles and El Sistema-inspired NJSO CHAMPS (Character, Achievement and Music Project). The NJSO’s REACH (Resources for Education and Community Harmony) chamber music program annually brings original programs—designed and performed by NJSO musicians—to a variety of settings. In the 2015–16 season, REACH ensembles performed at nearly 200 events, and ECE programs served more than 66,000 New Jerseyans in nearly 21 counties.

For more information about the NJSO, visit www.njsymphony.org or email information@njsymphony.org. Tickets are available for purchase by phone at 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) or on the Orchestra’s website.

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra’s programs are made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, along with many other foundations, corporations and individual donors.

STATE THEATRE NEW JERSEY

The State Theatre New Jersey is a premier nonprofit venue for the performing arts and entertainment. The theater exists to enrich people’s lives, contribute to a vital urban environment and build future audiences by presenting the finest performing artists and entertainers and fostering lifetime appreciation for the performing arts through education. The State Theatre New Jersey’s programs are made possible in part by funding from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and contributions from numerous corporations, foundations and individuals.

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