

# NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

**XIAN ZHANG** MUSIC DIRECTOR

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **Xian Zhang conducts Rachmaninoff and Shostakovich with New Jersey Symphony**

**June 5 in Morristown**

**June 6 in Princeton**

**June 7 in Red Bank**

**June 8 in Newark**

NEWARK, NJ—New Jersey Symphony will present its Season Finale concerts with Music Director Xian Zhang conducting Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony. Pianist Conrad Tao performs Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto, an audience favorite.

Schedule of concert locations, dates, and times is below.

### **Rachmaninoff and Shostakovich**

#### **Season Finale Concerts**

**Morristown** → Thursday, June 5, 7:30 pm, Mayo Performing Arts Center

**Princeton** → Friday, June 6, 8 pm, Richardson Auditorium

**Red Bank** → Saturday, June 7, 8 pm, Count Basie Center for the Arts

**Newark** → Sunday, June 8, 3 pm, NJPAC

[Event page](#)

**Xian Zhang** conductor

**Conrad Tao** piano

**New Jersey Symphony**

#### **On the program:**

**Sergei Rachmaninoff** Piano Concerto No. 2

**Dmitri Shostakovich** Symphony No. 5

A complete list of concerts and information on tickets: [\*\*njsymphony.org/events\*\*](https://njsymphony.org/events).

## About the artists

### Xian Zhang

2024–25 marks the GRAMMY and Emmy Award-winning conductor Xian Zhang’s ninth season as music director of the New Jersey Symphony. Starting in 2025–26, Zhang will also hold the role of music director at Seattle Symphony. Zhang holds the position of conductor emeritus of Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano, having previously held the position of music director between 2009–2016.

The 2024–25 season sees Zhang return to the Metropolitan Opera in New York to conduct David McVicar’s acclaimed production of Puccini’s *Tosca*.

[Xian Zhang full bio](#)

### Conrad Tao

Pianist and composer Conrad Tao has been dubbed “the kind of musician who is shaping the future of classical music” by *New York Magazine*, and an artist of “probing intellect and open-hearted vision” by *The New York Times*. A soloist with leading orchestras in the traditional repertoire, Tao possesses an encyclopedic artistic approach and vision, as well as a stunning array of innovative and impactful projects.

Tao’s 2024–25 season includes a return to Carnegie Hall in recital performing Debussy’s 12 Études, alongside *Keyed In*, a work arranged and improvised by Tao on the Lumatone. He also returns to the San Francisco Symphony to perform Tchaikovsky with Nicholas Collon, the Dallas Symphony to perform Mozart with Jaap van Zweden, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra to perform Saint-Saëns with David Danzmayr, and the Baltimore Symphony to perform Mozart with Jonathon Heyward.

[Conrad Tao full bio](#)

### New Jersey Symphony

New Jersey Symphony is a GRAMMY and Emmy Award-winning orchestra. Under the direction of Music Director Xian Zhang, the Symphony performs more than 55 mainstage concerts across the state at venues in Newark, Princeton, New Brunswick, Red Bank, and Morristown, as well as at schools and public spaces statewide. Programming at the Symphony reflects an unwavering commitment to diverse communities throughout the state, while providing students unparalleled opportunities to achieve musical excellence through its Youth Orchestra and other education programs. In 2024, the Symphony announced it would continue to deliver its statewide activities from a new, permanent office, rehearsal, and concert space in Jersey City, set to open in 2026. For more information about the New Jersey Symphony, visit our website at [njssymphony.org](https://njssymphony.org) or our newsroom for press releases and photos.

### Connect with us

Follow NJ Symphony on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#), [X](#), and [YouTube](#)

###

**Local press**

Geoffrey Anderson, New Jersey Symphony, VP of Marketing & External Affairs  
[ganderson@njsymphony.org](mailto:ganderson@njsymphony.org)

**National & classical music press**

Shirley Kirshbaum, Kirshbaum Associates, President  
[skirshbaum@kirshbaumassociates.com](mailto:skirshbaum@kirshbaumassociates.com)

Beverly Greenfield, Kirshbaum Associates, Director of Public Relations  
[bgreenfield@kirshbaumassociates.com](mailto:bgreenfield@kirshbaumassociates.com)

*New Jersey Symphony'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.*