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## THE MAHABHARATA

(France/Great Britain/USA, 1989)

27th New York Film Festival—1989

Thursday, September 28 at 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 30 at 11:30 a.m.

Running time: 171 minutes

Director.....Peter Brook  
Producer.....Michel Propper  
Adapted from the Sanskrit by.....Peter Brook  
Jean-Claude Carriere  
Cinematography.....William Lubtchansky  
Editor.....Nicholas Gaster  
Sound.....Daniel Brisseau  
Production Designer.....Chloe Obolensky

Channel Four Television Company

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Cast:  
Vyasa.....Robert Langdon Lloyd  
Le Garcon.....Antonin Stahly-Viswanadhan  
Ganesha/Krishna.....Bruce Myers  
Arjuna.....Vittorio Mezzogiorno  
Yudhishtira.....Andrzej Seweryn  
Bhima.....Mamadou Dioume  
Draupadi.....Mallika Sarabhai  
Kunti.....Myriam Goldschmidt  
Dritharashtra.....Ryszard Cieslak  
Gandhari.....Helene Patarot  
Duryodhana.....Georges Corraface  
Karna.....Jeffrey Kissoon  
Drona.....Yoshi Oida  
Bhishma & Parashurama.....Sotigui Kouyate  
Amba & Sikandin.....Corine Jaber  
Ekalavya.....Akram Khan  
Santanu.....Velu Viswanadhan  
Satyawati.....Leela Mayor  
Gazelle & Rakshasa.....Clement Masdongar  
Virata.....Mas Soegeng  
Kitchaka.....Maurice Benichou  
Uttara.....Lutfi Jakfar  
Reine.....Yumi Nara  
Ascetic.....Ken Higelin

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Peter Brook's staging of this great Sanskrit epic was one of the premiere theatrical events of the decade. Now Brook has reconceived his work for the screen, discovering in his approach—a provocative hybrid of theatrical and cinematic techniques—perhaps the perfect metaphor for the half-mythic, half-spiritual netherworld in which THE MAHABHARATA is set. The moral and philosophical issues raised in the confrontation between rival bands of cousins are here brought more sharply into focus and given as well an urgent human dimension.

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### About the filmmaker:

Peter Brook was born in London in 1925. He worked for many years as a director for the Royal Shakespeare Theater during which time he adapted some of his theatrical successes to the screen, including THE BEGGAR'S OPERA, KING LEAR, MARAT-SADE and CARMEN. Brook also directed a "cult picture" about Gurdjieff's early years -- MEETINGS WITH REMARKABLE MEN and an adaptation of William Golding's allegorical novel LORD OF THE FLIES.

In 1968 Brook settled in Paris where he created the CIRT, which later became the CICT. He was responsible for the revival of the Bouffes du Nord theater. In 1985, during the Avignon Theater Festival, Brook created a 9-hour play called the "Mahabharata," adapted with Jean-Claude Carriere from the sacred Indian text. The play has been performed throughout the world and has been adapted by Brook into a motion picture.

### Filmography:

THE BEGGAR'S OPERA (1953)  
MODERATO CANTABILE (1963)  
LORD OF THE FLIES (1963)  
THE PERSECUTION AND ASSASSINATION OF JEAN-PAUL MARAT AS PERFORMED BY THE INMATES OF THE ASYLUM OF CHARENTON UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MARQUIS DE SADE (MARAT-SADE) (1967)  
TELL ME LIES (1968)  
KING LEAR (1971)  
MEETINGS WITH REMARQUABLE MEN (1979)  
THE TRAGEDY OF CARMEN (1983)  
THE MAHABHARATA (1989)



CORRECTED CAPTIONS

27TH NEW YORK FILM FESTIVAL--1989

MYRIAM GOLDSCHMIDT ("KUNTI") IN A SCENE FROM THE MAHABHARATA, DIRECTED BY PETER BROOK.

CONTACT: JOANNA NEY, THE FILM SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER, 140 WEST 65TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10023, 877-1800, EXT. 492.

27TH NEW YORK FILM FESTIVAL--1989

ROBERT LANGDON LLOYD ("VYASA"), HELENE PATAROT ("GANDHARI"), RYSZARD CIESLAK ("DRITHARASHTRA"), AND ANTONIN STAHLY-VISWANADHAN ("LE GARCON") (LEFT TO RIGHT) IN A SCENE FROM THE MAHABHARATA, DIRECTED BY PETER BROOK.

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