

Boca Raton to host 'Star Wars' screening with live orchestra

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The force is strong with this one: A screening of “Star Wars IV: A New Hope” while a full orchestra

performs the soundtrack
live at Boca Festival of the
Arts.

BOCA RATON — In a city not far
away, the Boca Festival of the Arts will
screen the first film in the popular
“Star Wars” series while a live
orchestra performs the award-
winning score.

The second day of the ten-day festival,
March 1, is reserved for a screening of
the 1977 movie “Star Wars IV: A New
Hope” at Mizner Park Amphitheater
in downtown Boca Raton.

While cultural icons Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Princess Leia light the screen at the outdoor amphitheater, The Symphonia, a Boca Raton-based full chamber orchestra, will perform the film's space-opera score.

The soundtrack, conducted by John Williams, was originally recorded by the London Symphony Orchestra and won several awards, including an Academy Award, Golden Globe, Grammy and BAFTA.

The epic film, written and directed by George Lucas, is listed in the U.S. Library of Congress' National Film Registry, which is reserved for films with historic significance.

“A New Hope” was the first in the ongoing franchise of “Star Wars” films that continues this year with the December release of “Star Wars: Episode IX,” the ninth installment.

Tickets to the Festival of the Arts screening range from \$35 to \$150. They’re available in advance at festivalboca.org.

The Boca Festival of the Arts, in its 12th year, often screens a classic film with live orchestra. In the past, Mizner Park Amphitheater has been home to showings of “Casablanca,” “West Side Story,” “Raiders of the Lost Ark” and “The Wizard of Oz.”

The festival calls it a nod to the history of film, when silent movies were accompanied by pianists' melodies.

Though it's outdated, a film screening with live orchestra is a tough task, Boca Festival of the Arts of writes on its website. It requires "exquisite timing" to coincide the action in the movie with the symphony within a quarter-of-a-second, "or it becomes noticeable," the website reads.

In addition to the film screening, the Boca Festival of the Arts' ten-day lineup includes other musical performances, a ballet and a speaker series.

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