The two thousand plus year old story of the Mahabharata, one of India’s greatest epics, passed down to us in a classical canon of Sanskrit verses, over 100,000 stanzas long, is a story of cosmic significance. Rich in lore and legend, episode and detail, family histories, myth and fable, the Mahabharata is unique in its breadth of vision. The authorship of The Mahabharata is attributed to Sage Vyasa, himself a character in the epic, who dictated the story to his scribe, Lord Ganesha.

Jean-Claude Carrière spent 11 years in India, tracing the Mahabharata’s roots in civilization, geography and its relevance in modern India. His 9-hour magnum opus, The Mahabharata, opened in 1985 under the stellar direction of his lifetime collaborator Peter Brook and an international cast, and quickly became a watershed moment in theatrical history across the Western world.

Jean-Claude Carrière’s name figures in the list of the greatest storytellers of our time with a prolific body of work spanning six decades. Jean-Claude Carrière is an Academy Award winning scriptwriter and director of over 170 films including The Unbearable Lightness of Being, Cyrano de Bergerac, and The Chinese Box.