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Press Release

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PLYMOUTH PHIL AMONG FIRST TO PERFORM JENNIFER HIGDON'S *COLD MOUNTAIN SUITE*

PLYMOUTH, MA — On **Saturday, March 25**, the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra will be among the first to perform Pulitzer Prize and three-time GRAMMY winner **Jennifer Higdon's** *Cold Mountain Suite*.

Phil conductor, **Steven Karidoyanes**, serves on the steering committee of 'New Music for America,' a commissioning consortium of nearly 40 orchestras nationwide that spearheaded the creation of *Cold Mountain Suite*. "Our consortium brings new music by top-tier composers to hometowns across the country. We are delighted to present the Massachusetts premiere of this new work from acclaimed composer Jennifer Higdon. You don't need to know the *Cold Mountain* opera or the novel to enjoy this orchestral suite. It's just great music!"

This music is inspired by Higdon's award-winning opera *Cold Mountain*, based on the beloved Charles Frazier Civil War novel that was turned into a movie starring Jude Law and Nicole Kidman. Taking the more dramatic musical themes from the full-length opera, Higdon created a succinct symphonic suite that highlights the emotional throes of love, war, and the journey of a soldier making his way back home to Cold Mountain. "It was a fun challenge compositionally,"

she explained in an interview last fall. "It uses sequences from the opera, arias, and duets. There's bluegrass fiddling and a very dramatic ending. It's kind of cool."

In addition to *Cold Mountain Suite*, *the Phil* will perform Tchaikovsky's epic and passionate Symphony No. 6, *Pathétique*, which he described as "the best thing I ever composed or shall compose." Adolphus Hailstork's Fanfare on Amazing Grace opens the concert. The much-loved hymn has a new home in contemporary American repertoire after Hailstork's feel-good fanfare was performed at the presidential inaugural prelude in 2021.

The Plymouth Phil presents *The Way Home* on **Saturday, March 25, 7:30 PM at Plymouth Memorial Hall** at 83 Court Street. Conductor Steven Karidoyanes presents an informal pre-concert talk, All About the Music, at 6:30 PM free for ticket holders.

Tickets range from \$25 to \$60. Advance tickets can be purchased online at plymouthphil.org or by calling 508-746-8008. A free shuttle will run to and from Memorial Hall beginning 90 minutes before the concert from Hotel 1620's parking lot. The shuttle will return to the parking area following the concert.

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Next event of the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra:

Two-time Grammy Award Winners, **Time for Three**
Benefit for the Phil
Saturday, April 29, 2023 | 7 PM
Memorial Hall, 83 Court Street, Plymouth, MA

For tickets, visit plymouthphil.org or call *the Phil* office at 508-746-8008.

About the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra

The Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra is a premier non-profit cultural institution in Massachusetts. Dedicated to artistic excellence and community enrichment, the orchestra offers world-class performances, innovative outreach programs, and strong community partnerships. Now in its 107th season, *the Phil's* mission is to inspire, engage, and entertain through the power of live music. For more information, call 508-746-8008 or visit plymouthphil.org.