

PRESS RELEASE

California Philharmonic Orchestra

For Immediate Release

Cal Phil's Season Finale Features Legendary Love Stories in "Affairs to Remember"

San Marino, CA – Affairs to Remember, a program of legendary love tales set to music, concludes the California Philharmonic's 2003 Festival on the Green on Saturday, September 6th. Excerpts from Wagner's operatic masterpiece *The Ring of the Nibelungs*, including "The Ride of the Valkyries," "Forest Murmurs" and the "Siegfried's Rhine Journey" will entrance you with their beauty and passion. Also featured on the program will be Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet*.

Gershwin's music from *Porgy and Bess* will come to life as Maestro **Error! Bookmark not defined.** and the Cal Phil are joined by trumpeters Ronald Romm, former and founding member of the Canadian Brass and his wife, the brilliant pianist, Avis Romm for the premiere of their new version of *Porgy*.

The Romms are ideally suited to star in this evening of love songs for they were introduced to one another through their love of music. The pair met in a class at the Juilliard School in New York and has been married for over 30 years.

A child prodigy, Mr. Romm was performing with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra by the age of 18. During the summer of his junior year of high school, while at Idyllwild Arts Camp, he met a fellow campmate, Victor Vener. The two became social and musical friends and even attended USC together. Vener, who is Cal Phil's Music Director and Maestro, is delighted to again share a stage with his childhood friend. Vener adds, "I've wanted Ron to play with the orchestra since its inception. In the music world, he is truly considered to be one of the greatest trumpet players of the 20th century."

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Mr. Romm played with the Canadian Brass, “The World’s Favorite Brass Ensemble” for twenty-nine years. As a featured soloist, he has over 4,000 appearances with major symphony orchestras worldwide and more than 50 CD’s in his discography. Mr. Romm’s talents extend to music arranging, producing, editing and composing and he has led more than 200 workshops.

Also multi-faceted in abilities is Avis Romm, whose love affair with the piano began at the age of three. Ms. Romm has performed on stages across the globe and as a solo and ensemble pianist for radio, television and stage. Highly respected in the field of opera, she has coached, directed, conducted and performed in hundreds of opera productions. With a strong commitment to education, Ms. Romm spearheaded an innovative project to integrate music education and classroom activities in the public schools in Canada. She has also taught piano at the university level.

Recently, the Romm’s have developed their highly acclaimed concert/show entitled, “A Trumpeter’s Dream”, which they plan to tour extensively. In 2000, they collaborated to form Romm Enterprises, LLC, a music production company and share in the composing, arranging and performing of a CD/Sheet Music project. They are already at work on Volume 2.

The Festival on the Green outdoor series, now concluding its seventh season, is enjoyed by thousands who come early to picnic and relax to the sounds of live jazz before the concert. The audiences enjoy evenings of great fun and good times surrounded by the most picturesque of settings, culminating in a captivating performance by Cal Phil under the direction of Maestro Victor Vener.

“Festival on the Green” concerts, presented by *Sunset Magazine*, are held at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden in Arcadia. Single seat ticket prices are \$15 to \$70. A very limited number of tables for six or ten are still available. Groups of 20 or more enjoy a 20 percent discount. The Arboretum is located at 310 N. Baldwin Avenue in Arcadia. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. for pre-concert entertainment and dining, with the concerts beginning at 7:30 p.m. For more information about the concert series, call Cal Phil at (626) 300-8200 or visit www.calphil.org.

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