

Program note

A Hero's Welcome was commissioned by the Toronto Symphony and the Prince Edward Island Symphony in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Canada's Confederation. The piece celebrates the returning war hero. More broadly, it commemorates all brave men and women of all ancestries and faiths who have fought for the ideals of our country since confederation - - both those who have seen a safe homecoming, and those who have not returned.. Roughly two minutes in duration, *A Hero's Welcome* merges the nobility of a slow, dignified military march with the rich, tuneful strains of an imagined Orthodox hymn.

- Kati Agócs, 2017