

Carillon Recitals

Century Tower The University of Florida Saturday, December 14, 2024 6:15 PM

> Jon Lehrer Florida Carillon Festival

I. ARRIVALS Rondeau from Abedelazer

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

II. DANCE Giga Danza Espanola #2

anonymous, arr. J. Haazen Enrique Granados (1867-1916), arr. J. Lehrer

Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley (1931-2021); (b. 1931), arr. J. Lory-Moran

Irving Berlin, arr. J. De Vreese

Émilien Allard (1915-1976)

III. REFLECTIONS

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent O Little Town of Bethlehem

arr. D. Hufford

anonymous

Quodlibet on "Forest Green" and "St. Louis"

IV. IMAGES

Pure Imagination from Willy Wonka

More Love (Shaker Hymn) I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas Image No. 2 for Carillon

V. CAROLS

Here we Come a' Caroling Carol of the Birds **Good King Wenceslas** The Holly and the Ivy Carol of the Bells

Mykola Dmitrovich Leontovich (1877-1921)

VI. **RETURNS**

Return to Zanarkand Grave e Recitando from Concerto Grosso I

VII. **REPOSES**

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen **Sicilienne from** *Serenade I for Carillon*

Ronald Barnes (1927-1997)

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*arrangements by Ronald Barnes except where noted

Nobuo Uematsu (b. 1959), arr. J. Lehrer

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About the Performer

Jon Lehrer is the 5th Michigan State University Carillonist. He graduated from Yale University with a degree in mathematics, pursuing his advanced carillon study at the Belgian Royal Carillon School under Eddy Marien, Geert D'hollander, and Koen Cosaert, graduating with great distinction in 2008. He begins his carillon pedagogy masters degree this January.

Jon is a laureate of five international competitions for carillon: The Queen Fabiola International Carillon Competition (also receiving the SABAM prize for best performance of Flemish music), three International Carillon competitions of the Dutch Carillon Guild, and the Alexius Julien International Baroque Competition. Jon has performed theatrical carillon shows at Renaissance festivals across the US and has represented the Canada Council for the Arts on a European concert tour (to date, one of his five overseas tours in addition to ten in North America).

Prior to his life in Michigan, Jon lived in Vancouver and moonlit as a cancer researcher and data scientist. He now focuses on creating moments of beauty and reflection for a busy university campus, teaching the next generation of expressive carillon virtuosi, and advancing the carillon art through research, technology, and interdisciplinary collaborations.

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For more information about carillon performances, please visit the carillon website: www.arts.ufl.edu/carillon

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About the Carillon

Century Tower, a monument constructed in 1953 in memory of students killed in World War I and World War II, houses a cast-bell carillon. By definition, a carillon must have at least 23 fixed, finely tuned bells. The Century Tower Carillon has 61 bells, encompassing a range of 5 octaves, and is one of the largest university carillons in the United States. There are fewer than 200 traditional carillons in all of North America, and only four can be found in the state of Florida.

The carillon is played by hand from a clavier or keyboard, with 61 keys (called "batons") for the hands as well as 25 pedals for the feet, in a small room just below the bell chamber. The carillonneur moves the clappers of the bells with the batons and pedals while the bells remain stationary.

Through the efforts of Professor Emeritus Willis Bodine, the world-class carillon housed in Century Tower was purchased for approximately \$200,000 with funds accumulated from student fees over several generations of students. These funds were earmarked by the Board of Regents and the Legislature for campus improvements in the performing arts. The carillon purchase was endorsed unanimously by the Student Senate in 1976.

The original 49 bells housed on the top floor of the tower were cast in 1978 by the firm of Koninklijke Eijsbouts (Royal Dutch Bell Foundry) of Asten, The Netherlands. The bronze bells were tuned at the foundry by carefully shaving metal from the interior of the bells and will never need re-tuning. The bells are hung individually from stainless steel bolts on a massive steel frame. The largest bell, the "bourdon," stands five feet tall, is five feet in diameter and weighs about 7,000 pounds.

A \$450,000 gift from the estate of Larry A. Webb of St. Augustine, FL, made possible major upgrading of the carillon in 2002. The renovation, carried out by Eijsbouts, included the installation of 12 additional bells (for a total of 61), improvements in the playing action, and new performance and practice claviers.