Carillon Studio Recital

Century Tower
Gainesville, Florida
Sunday, October 15, 2006
3:00 p.m.

Sonatina in C Major, Op. 36, no.1
I. Spiritoso
II. Andante
III. Vivace

Muzio Clementi
(1753-1832)

Christina Heddesheimer and Jon Savant (carillon duet)

Toccata No. 10
Johann Franco (1908-1988)

Michelle
Lennon & McCartney
Arr. Richard Giszczak

Night Food Reggae
Juan Cardenas of the Duppies
(b. 1982)

Preludio No. 7 in G Major
Matthias van den Gheyn
(1721-1785)

Plan to Ascend
Jon Savant
(b. 1985)

Jon Savant

The carillon is performed daily while classes are in session from 12:35 – 12:50 p.m. The Sunday Afternoon Concert Series continues with programs on November 5 and December 10 at 3:00 p.m. In addition, the carillon studio will provide carillon music immediately before and after the annual “Sounds of the Seasons” presented by the School of Music on the afternoon of Sunday, December 3.

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 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.