GUEST CARILLON RECITAL
Sunday, November 15, 2009
3:00 p.m.
Geert D’hollander (Antwerp, Belgium)
Century Tower

PROGRAM

1. Celebrated Composers
From “The Seven Last Words of Christ“
Sonata II (Grave e Cantabile)  
Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)  
arr. G. D’hollander

Suite in d minor for Harpsichord
- Allemande  
- Courante  
- Sarabande I  
- Sarabande II  
- Ciacona  
Georg Friedrich Haendel (1685-1759)  
arr. B. Winsemius

2. Music for Carillon
Preludium Quasi Una Fantasia (Flanders, 1927)  
Jef Van Hoof (1886-1959)

Aria Hexafonica from Suite #2 (Holland, 1952)  
Henk Badings (1907-1987)

The Tuning of the Sky (USA, 1979)  
Richard Felciano (b.1930)

3. Contrasts...
From Piano Concerto no. 21, KV 467  
Andante  
Wolfgang A. Mozart (1756-1791)  
arr. B. Winsemius

Improvisation on a child song (in contemporary style)

“JUBILEE!”  
Geert D’hollander (b.1965)

- Toccata Festiva (on “Florida, our Alma Mater”)  
- Berceuse (on “America the Beautiful”)  
- Danza Americana (on “We are the Boys from Old Florida)

Geert D’hollander studied, amongst others, piano, chamber music, choral- and orchestral direction, fugue and composition at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp (Belgium). He was first prize winner in about 30 international competitions for carillon and/or composition (including the ‘Queen Fabiola Contest’ in 1987 for interpretation and in 2003 for composition, and the ‘Grand Prix Europeèn de Composition Chorale' in Tours, France, with 214 participants from 21 countries).
In 1997 he succeeded Ronald Barnes as University Carillonneur and professor of carillon technique and carillon history at the Department of Music at UC Berkeley (California). In 1999 he returned to Europe and resumed his former carillon jobs (Antwerp Cathedral, the belfries of Ghent & St. Nicolas, and the basilica of Lier). He is teaching composition at the Royal Carillon School in Mechelen (Belgium) and is guest professor of carillon at ‘Roosevelt Academy’ (Middelburg, The Netherlands) and at the Dutch Carillon School (Amersfoort, The Netherlands).

In 2008 he received the UC Berkeley’s highest honor, the “Berkeley Medal” for “Distinguished Service to the Carillon”.

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The Sunday Afternoon Concert Series continues with a program of seasonal music on December 13 at 3:00 p.m. In the spring, the Sunday afternoon concerts will be held on January 17, February 14, March 14, April 11, and May 16. The carillon is performed daily while classes are in session from 12:35 to 12:50 p.m.

2009 marks the 30th anniversary year of the installation the bells in Century Tower. First performed on May 14, 1979, the carillon has become a part of the daily life of the university. Please join us in celebrating “Music from the Tower!”

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

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.