To ensure an enjoyable concert experience for all, please refrain from talking, entering, or exiting while musicians are performing.
Food and drink are prohibited in all concert halls.
Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices. Thank you for your cooperation.

Program number 148 in the School of Music Events Series of the 2013-2014 academic year.

The College of Fine Arts School of Music at the University of Florida is an internationally recognized community of performers, scholars and producers of the arts that offers baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees. For more information about specific programs, degrees and entrance requirements, please visit www.arts.ufl.edu/music/

Laura Ellis
Carillon

Sunday, May 11, 2014
3:00PM
Century Tower
Program

Four Flourishes
Festive
Serene
Lively and gay
Exalted

Musick for a While
Prelude and Fugue
First Dance: Almand
Second Dance: Corant
Third Dance: Saraband
Fourth Dance: Gavotte and Musette
Fifth Dance: Minuet
Sixth Dance: Hornpipe

Spanish Suite
I. On the Burro
II. Jumping Bean
III. Lullaby

Variations on Three Japanese Folk Songs

We Are the Boys

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The Sunday Afternoon Concert Series continues with programs on June 15, July 13, and August 24 at 3:00PM. The daily performance schedule (12:35-12:50PM and 4:55-5:10PM) will resume for the Fall semester on Monday, August 25.

About the Performer

Laura Ellis is an associate professor of music in the School of Music at the University of Florida. Dr. Ellis teaches undergraduate and graduate organ, harpsichord, and carillon. A native of Minnesota, Ellis is a magna cum laude graduate of Luther College (Decorah, Iowa) and holds a Master of Music degree in church music and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance from the University of Kansas. While in residence at the University of Kansas, she studied carillon with Albert Gerken.

In June 2010, Ellis achieved carillonneur status in the GCNA by performing a successful advancement exam in Naperville, Illinois. In addition to her regular performances on the carillon in Century Tower on the University of Florida campus, she has performed solo carillon recitals in the Netherlands (St. Plechelmus Basilica, Oldenzaal, Stadthuis, Roermond, and Maria Presentatiekerk, Asten); the International Carillon Festival, Springfield, Illinois; the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Spokane, WA; the University of Sydney; the National Carillon, Canberra, Australia; Iowa State University; Grand Valley State University; the University of Chicago; the University of Rochester (NY); Alfred University (NY); the University of Toronto; and the Metropolitan Church, Toronto.

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 retuning. 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.