Program

Introduction
Toccata in E Minor (BWV 914, for harpsichord) Johann Sebastian Bach

Grave (1685-1750)

Un Poco Allegro
Adagio
Fuga

Manuscripts from Bok Tower's Archives  
The Old Refrain (for piano) Fritz Kreisler

(1875-1962)

Sonata in C Major (for pianoforte) Daniel Steibelt

(1765-1823)

Allegro
Moderato
Allegro

España Emmanuel Chabrier

(1841-1894)

Intermezzo
Adagio Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

(from the Italian Concerto BWV 971)

Introduction and Sicilienne Ronald Barnes

(1917-1997)

A Composition by the Performer

Accents, Reflection & Dreaming
(from Ludus Modalis, 2013)

Program Notes
Bach wrote his toccatas when he was in his twenties, and one can tell! We find a composer who is exploring the possibilities of keyboard playing, but also one who’s still struggling with formal structure. Nevertheless it is all compensated by a youthful ebullience.

Bok Tower Garden’s first carillonneur, Anton Brees (1897-1967), left us his entire musical library. Out of hundreds of scores, I picked three remarkable ones: Kreisler’s The Old Refrain is a charming little composition that continues to delight and comfort; Steibelt’s Sonata in C Major is youthful, uncomplicated and brilliant, though his early sonatas sometimes lack the higher qualities of contemporaries such as Hummel and Clementi; España, Chabrier’s extraordinary rhapsody, is full of excitement just like an emotional Spanish dance.

The jewel of Bach’s “Concerto nach italienischen Gusto” is the second movement, Adagio. It sings like a beautiful aria on a highly organized sequential bass which constantly repeats the same rhythmic figure.

Ludus Modalis 1 is a collection of ten intermediate carillon studies for students. It was commissioned by the Royal Carillon School in Mechelen, Belgium. Each study has its own technical and musical challenge and character. Some are fast, some are slow and melancholic, or light and singing, but they’re all easy to listen to and so much fun to perform! Reflection is written in Bartók’s style, Dreaming in Ravel’s style.

About the Artist
Geert D’hollander has studied piano, chamber music, choral and orchestral conducting, fugue and composition at the Royal Conservatory of Antwerp, and obtained his degree at the Royal Carillon School in Mechelen, with honors. He was first prize winner in more than 30 international competitions for carillon or composition (a.o. the Queen Fabiola Competition in Mechelen, Belgium, the Grand Prix Europeen de Composition Chorale in Tours, France, the Visser-Neerlandia Prize in The Netherlands).

In 1997, D’hollander succeeded Ronald Barnes as University Carilloneur and Professor of Carill- on at the Department of Music at UC Berkeley (VS). In 2008, he was awarded the “Berkeley Medal of Honors” for “Distinguished Service to the Carillon”. Until 2012 he was the carillon teacher at the Royal Carillon School “Jef Deny” in Mechelen, and city carillonneur of the his- torical instruments of Antwerp Cathedral, the belfry of Ghent, and the Basilica of Lier. During the Spring and Summer months he serves as city carillonneur of Middelburg (NL) and in 2012 he was named Bok Tower Gardens’ fourth full-time carillonneur. He frequently gives master classes in Europe and the U.S. and performs all over the world.

Adaptations for carillon of music written for other instruments have been made by the recitalist, except for those arrangements identified by the following footnotes:

1. Anton Brees