

**Laura Ellis
Carillon Recital
Gainesville, Florida
Sunday, October 16 2005
3:00 p.m.**

Campanella	David Kellner (1670-1748) arr. Judson Maynard
Etude No. 8	Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959) transc. Albert Gerken
Two Poems for Children 1. Day-Dreaming 2. Drawing Circles	Geert D'hollander (b. 1965)
A Country Collage I. The Manor House II. Bird Cage Waltz III. Memorial Stone IV. Woodland Glade V. Village Carnival	Geoffrey Cook (b. 1948)
Woodland Sketches (for piano) 1. To a Wild Rose 2. At an Old Trysting Place	Edward MacDowell (1861-1908) arr. Albert Gerken
Sonatine II (Op. 71 for guitar) I. Andante espressivo II. Andante grazioso III. Allegretto con brio	Mauro Guilliani (1781-1829) arr. Karel Keldermans
Roister-Doister	John Knox (b. 1932)

Program Notes

Geert D'hollander holds multiple carillon posts in Belgium and has served on the faculty of the Royal Carillon School "Jef Denijn" in Mechelen and the Academy for Music, Drama, and Dance in Sint-Niklas. D'hollander studied at the Royal Flemish Conservatory in Antwerp and graduated with distinction from the Royal Carillon School. Two Poems for Children was awarded Second Prize in the 2004 Johan Franco composition competition sponsored by the Guild of Carillonners of North America. "Day Dreaming" begins with slow, broken chords. A middle section features a rippling pattern in the upper bells while the pedal offers thematic material reminiscent of the

opening. The closing section returns to the tempo of the opening. "Drawing Circles" is based on a four-note pattern that is gently manipulated.

John Knox served as City Carillonneur of Aberdeen, Scotland, Saint John's Kirk, Perth, Scotland, performed regularly on the two-octave carillon in the town hall of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and currently performs on the two-octave carillon at Bond Street, London. "Roister-Doister" is dedicated to the memory of Ronald Byrnes (1949-2004) who is considered one of North America's most well respected carillonneurs and composers. Notation in the score indicates that John Knox's choice of the title "Roister-Doister" is most appropriate: those who knew Bob Byrnes well would agree the definition of a *roister-doister* (from the verb *to roister*, to behave uproariously) as a character larger than life. The light-hearted work fully exploits the wide dynamic range of the carillon and closes with a brief and quiet paraphrase of the work "On the San Antonio River" published by Byrnes in 1997.

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.

About the Performer

Laura Ellis serves the University of Florida as associate professor in the School of Music. Dr. Ellis teaches undergraduate and graduate organ, harpsichord and carillon. In addition to her duties as university organist, Ellis serves as curator for the Andrew Anderson Memorial Pipe Organ in the University Auditorium, the Carillon in the Century Tower, and the historic keyboard instruments housed in the School of Music. Ellis also teaches upper-level music theory courses.

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 addition to her performances on the UF campus, Ellis has performed solo carillon recitals at House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, Minnesota, the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, the University of Toronto, and the Metropolitan Church, Toronto.