



# Carillon Recitals

## *Century Tower*

The University of Florida  
Sunday, August 27, 2023  
**1:55 PM**

Laura Ellis  
Faculty Recital

### ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS FOR CARILLON

Suite in Popular Style

John Courter (1941-2010)

- I. Ragtime Bells
- II. Ballad
- III. Blues for Bells
- IV. The Winners (March for Carillon)

Prelude and Fugue

Albert Gerken (b. 1938)

### RESPONSES FOR OUR TIME

Chime of the Dawn Bells

Jean-François Maljean (b. 1953), arr. Crickboom

Ніч яка місячна (“What a Moonlit Night”)

Myola Lysenko (1842-1912), arr. Browne

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954), arr. Courter

### AND FOR DESSERT . . .

*Chocolate*

Alice Gomez (b. 1960)

- I. Dark Chocolate – *Bittersweet Passion*
- II. White Chocolate – *Tastefully Impure*
- III. Milk Chocolate – *The Elixir of Love*

Pure Imagination from *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*

Leslie Bricusse (1931-2021)  
& Anthony Newley (1931-1999), arr. Lory-Moran

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*About the Performer*

**Laura Ellis** is Associate Director and Professor in the School of Music at the University of Florida. She teaches courses in Sacred Music and applied lessons in organ, harpsichord, and carillon. Ellis holds the DMA in organ performance from the University of Kansas where she studied carillon with Albert Gerken. She has also received carillon coaching from Karel Keldermans. Ellis is a carillonneur member of The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America (GCNA) and recently served two terms as president of the organization. She remains on the board of the GCNA and is director of the Music and Publications Committee. Her recording of the carillon works of Alice Gomez is in production.

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The carillon is performed Monday thru Friday at 12:35-12:50 & 4:55-5:10 when classes are in session.

**Please join us for our Fall concert series!**

Sunday, September 24, 1:55PM: UF Carillon Studio

Friday, October 27, 7:20PM: Annual Carillon and Organ Halloween Spooktacular!

Sunday, November 19, 1:55PM: UF Carillon Studio

Sunday, December 3, 1:55PM: Annual Holiday Program

Saturday, December 16, 6:15PM: Florida Carillon Festival

For more information about carillon performances,  
please visit the carillon website: [www.arts.ufl.edu/carillon](http://www.arts.ufl.edu/carillon)

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*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 traditional carillons in all of North America, and only three 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 Discounts (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.