MSU Music

PRESENTS

ARMISTICE DAY
BELL RINGING
CEREMONY

100th Anniversary of the end of World War I
The Armistice was signed at the 11th hour
of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918

Laurie Harkema
MSU Assistant Carillonneur

Sunday, November 11, 2018, 11:00 a.m.
Beaumont Tower

College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Bells of Peace: A World War I Remembrance

The Star Spangled Banner
John S. Smith
(1750—1836)
arr. Milford Myhre

A Sacred Suite
Geert D’hollander
(b. 1965)
Commissioned for the Dedication of the Peace Carillon at the Norbertine Abbey of Park, Leuven, Belgium on November 11, 2018
I. Da Pacem Domine – Give Peace, O Lord
II. Regina Coeli – Queen of Heaven, Rejoice, Alleluia
III. Sancti Spiritus – May the grace of the Holy Ghost be with us now

European Melodies

Finlandia
Jean Sibelius
(1865—1957)
arr. Don Cook

Bist du bie mir (If you are with me)
J.S. Bach
(1685—1750)
arr. Leen t’Hart

Londonderry Air
Irish Melody
arr. Sally Slade Warner

American Patriotic Songs

America, the Beautiful
Samuel A. Ward
(1848—1943)
arr. Milford Myhre

Over There (written in 1917)
George M. Cohan
(1878—1942)
arr. Robert Lodine

Medley of U.S. Armed Forces Songs
Army – The Caissons Go Rolling Along
Marine Corps – The Marines’ Hymn (From the Halls of Montezuma)
Navy – Anchors Aweigh
Air Force – The U.S. Air Force (The Wide Blue Yonder)
Coast Guard – Semper Paratus (Always Ready)

America
anon. English
arr. Milford Myhre
ARTIST BIO

Laurie Harkema, assistant carillonneur, has a B.A. in Music Education from Calvin College and an M.M. in Piano Performance from Michigan State University. She is Organist and Choir Director at River Terrace Church in East Lansing. Laurie taught elementary school music in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and in the Okemos, Michigan Public Schools for over 20 years. She began studying the carillon with Ray McLellan in 2016 and is an associate member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America.

PROGRAM NOTES

On November 11, 2018, the Peace Carillon will be dedicated at Park Abbey in Leuven, Belgium. The instrument is the result of the cultural cooperation between the cities of Neuss, Germany and Leuven, two cities that confronted with each other in a disastrous way in August 1914. The reconstruction of the 18th century carillon destroyed in World War I is dedicated to peace and reconciliation.

The inauguration will include the premier of a carillon piece commissioned for this event, A Sacred Suite, a triptych on Gregorian themes by the renowned Flemish carillonneur and composer Geert D'hollander. Carillonneurs around the world will also be performing this piece at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, and their names and carillons will be included in the program book of the Peace Carillon dedication in Leuven.

About the Carillon

The Beaumont Tower Carillon at Michigan State University

A carillon is a musical instrument consisting of at least two octaves of carillon bells arranged in chromatic series and played from a keyboard (clavier) that permits control of expression through variation of touch.

The MSU carillon contains 49 bells and is capable of playing the full range of literature composed for the instrument. The first ten bells were installed in the new Beaumont Tower in 1928. Thirteen additional bells were installed so that the instrument became a carillon in 1935. The smallest bell weighs about 15 pounds; the largest weighs 2½ tons. The carillon and tower were completely renovated in 1996.

The carillon clavier is located on the fourth floor of the tower, behind the clocks and near the bells. To play the bells, the
carillonneur’s loosely closed fists strike the wooden keys and the carillonneur’s feet depress the foot pedals. When the keys and pedals are depressed, wires move the clappers to hit the bells and the bells sound. The more force used in moving the clappers, the louder the bells sound. There is only mechanical assistance involved in playing music on the instrument. One never hears recorded music from the tower. Twenty-seven bells have a hammer on the outside. These bells, activated by a computer, strike the Westminster Quarters every 15 minutes during the day and play MSU Shadows daily. A carillon practice clavier is located on the ground floor of the tower. Here, students prepare to perform on the carillon.

The carillon itself was developed in the 15th and 16th centuries in the area of Europe that is now Holland, Belgium and northern France. Presently, there are about 185 carillons in North America, with new ones being installed each year; it is a growing art. There are 14 carillons in Michigan: MSU and Central United Methodist Church in Lansing; two at U-M and GVSU; and others in several churches in the greater Detroit area. The newest one is at Oakland University in Rochester, MI.

Volunteer assistant carillonneurs play noon recitals on various days during the week. They also play for special tours and events. Beaumont Tower volunteers are an invaluable resource in representing the carillon when the university carillonneur is unavailable.

The Muelder Summer Carillon Series was established in 1996 through the generosity of Drs. Milton E. and Kathleen D. Muelder, as a gift to all who enjoy carillon music. Dr. Milton Muelder served as educator, researcher and administrator at MSU for over 40 years.

Located in the West Circle Drive oval area, the Beaumont Tower will be open after each recital for two short tours limited to about 35 people each, allowing you to see a demonstration of how the carillon is played. Recital attendees are welcome to bring a picnic during the recitals. All tours and recitals are FREE!