The 13th Annual Holiday Carillon Concert
University of Denver

CAROL JICKLING LENS, DU Carillonneur

Sunday, December 11, 2011, 3:00 p.m.

Williams Carillon at the Ritchie Center,
SW Corner of Buchtel and University Boulevard at I-25
Concert is open-air and will be played snow or shine!

The best listening place for the carillon is
in the courtyard at the south end of the Ritchie Center.
There will be a live video viewing in the lobby during the concert
for those who would like to see how the carillon is played.

FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING compliments of DU parking services at S. Josephine & Buchtel (lot # 108)

You may greet the performer after the concert in the concourse at the top of
the west stairs, where hot cider, hot chocolate and other refreshments will be
available in the concourse.

Happy Holidays!

Lamont Concert Line (303) 871-6412
www.du.edu/lamont

Williams Carillon at the Ritchie Center
The Williams Carillon, dedicated October 24, 1999, contains 65 bronze bells, - 5 1/2 octaves, the largest of which weighs six tons, has a diameter of 82.16" and sounds G0.

The total weight of the carillon 29,500 kg or 64,900 pounds. This carillon’s range and weight places it in the category “Grand Carillons”. The Williams Carillon is the 160th on North American soil. It is the second in the state of Colorado. The first was the 30-bell Charles S. Hill Memorial Carillon installed in 1962 on DU’s Park Hill Campus. The tower was expressly designed to house it. The architect of the tower is G. Cabell Childress.

The carillon is played from a keyboard with wooden manual and pedal keys in a playing cabin located just below the bells. The playing action is entirely mechanical, allowing for musical expression through variation of touch.

When school is in session, Carol Jickling Lens, University Carillonneur, performs most days M-F from 11:45 am-12:15 pm on the Williams Carillon. Fridays are “Open Tower Day” and those who would like to tour the carillon are encouraged and are more than welcome. The meeting place is the 4th floor of the Ritchie Center around 11:30.

Please contact Carol at (720) 202-0913 to let her know that you’re coming.

More information on reverse→
The Birth of the Carillon

1510: in the town hall of Oudenaarde, clockmaker Jan Van Spiere connected the clappers of the forestrike of 9 bells to a "clavier in torreken om te beyaerdene" (roughly translated this means "keyboard in the tower to be able to chime."). By doing this he transposed the well-known technique of chiming on big swinging bells to the musical bells of the forestrike. This text is the oldest known mention of a keyboard, connected to the clappers of bells. Although the keyboard is not described in detail, this text is considered to be the oldest formal proof of a carillon. That is the reason why 1510 is - with the present state of knowledge - the "canonic" birth year of the carillon.

It is self-evident that the carillon is not an invention, but rather the result of a development that started in the 13th century (the first mention of the noun "beyaert" dates from ca. 1250 in a literary text in an obscene context, but referring to playing on bells). So the primitive chiming installations that are still used in some regions in Europe (Southern France, Russia...) were already called "beyaert" in the Low Countries during the centuries, preceding the "invention" of the carillon.

Carol and her family were residents of Houston, Texas 5 times, where she was Carillonneur at St. John the Divine Episcopal Church on and off from 1979-93 and Carillonneur at the Bell Tower Center Carillon from 1997-99. They also lived in England (2 1/2 times), where she learned the art of English change ringing and played recitals at the Loughborough Memorial Carillon and regularly on the Old Bond Street Carillon, including a recital where Princess Margaret dedicated a plaque. Other moves took them to Ghana, New Orleans and Denver where Carol was in on the initial planning meetings for the Williams Carillon. Their latest adventure had them in Tripoli, Libya, until Dec 1, 2009. They are now back, happily residing in Denver. Carol was appointed University Carillonneur at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music in January of 2010.

Carol has been a member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America (GCNA) since 1971 and was elected to the Board of Directors in 1996, serving one 4 year term. From 1994-99 she was a judge, then Chairperson of the GCNA Examination Committee and is currently an alternate juror and Chair of the Nomination Committee. She was invited to play two GCNA Congress recitals and has played guest recitals from coast to coast in the US. In addition to recitals in England and the Netherlands, Lens has had the good fortune to play in St. Petersburg, Russia and at Heechon College in Taegu, near Seoul, South Korea. Lens has also been a piano teacher on three continents for more than 30 years.

The Birth of the Carillon

The Friends of the Carillon Fund

To support the concerts and the carillon you may join "Friends of the Carillon" by making a donation to the "Carillon Fund at DU." The fund is for guest artists, air conditioning, sound and recording system, music, etc.

To contribute: please contact Teri Fuller at (303) 871-6952.

You may also make a contribution by mail to: Friends of the Carillon, Lamont School of Music, University of Denver, Newman Center for the Performing Arts, 2344 E. Iliff Ave., Denver, CO 80208.

Thank you!

Announcing

The Third Annual Carillon Summer Concert Series
All concerts are free admission and open to the general public.
Presented at the Williams Carillon, Ritchie Wellness Center, University of Denver.
Dates TBA

For more information, or to learn about carillon study (available to proficient pianists who read music), please contact DU Carillonneur Carol Jickling Lens at carol.lens@du.edu

To receive notice of future carillon events call the Lamont Concert Line (303) 871-6412 to be added to the Lamont mailing list.