Is the Tower ever open to the Public?

Members at the Donor level and above can view the Founder’s Room on one of four tours conducted each year.

Architect: Milton B. Medary (Philadelphia)

Purpose: To house the carillon; serve as a centerpiece for the Gardens; the private use of the Bok family

Built: 1927-1929

Height: 205 feet (62.5 meters)

Weight: 5,500 tons (5,000 metric tons)

Structure: Steel frame with brick walls; outer facing of pink and gray Georgia marble and Florida coquina, a limestone of shell and coral fragments

Foundation: 118 reinforced concrete piles, 13-24 feet (4-7 meters) underground with a concrete cap of 2.5 feet (0.8 meter)

Sculpture: Lee Lawrie (New York City); herons at the top, eagles at the base of the bellchamber; all sculptures were carved on-site

Colorful Grilles near the top: Ceramic tiles designed by J.H. Dulles Allen (Philadelphia)

Brass Door and Wrought-iron Gates with Birds: Samuel Yellin (Philadelphia); depicts the Biblical story of Creation

Inscription under the Sundial: This Singing Tower with its adjacent Sanctuary was dedicated and presented to the American people by Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States, February 1, 1929.

Bellfounder: John Taylor Bellfounders, Ltd. (Loughborough, England)

Size: 60 bronze bells

Bell weight: Smallest bell at 16 lbs. Largest bell at 11+ tons (10+ metric tons) Total of 63+ tons (57+ metric tons)

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

* Anton Brees

Announcing the hour strike:

- Lake Wales Nocturne (excerpt) by Johan Franco
  - 9:00 Prelude by Johann Sebastian Bach
  - 9:30 Sarabande (for carillon) by Benoit Franssen
  - 10:00 Somber Pavane (for carillon) by Ronald Barnes
  - 10:30 Andante by Joseph H. Fiocco
  - 11:00 Spring Morning (for carillon) by Geert D’hollander
  - 11:30 Andante (for carillon) by Ronald Barnes
  - 12:00 Prelude VI (for carillon) by Matthias vanden Gheyn
  - 12:30 Chaconne * by Auguste Durant

Concerts at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

- 1:00 Concert
  - 2:00 Dreaming (for carillon) by Geert D’hollander
  - 2:30 Andante (for carillon) by Joannes de Graijtters

- 3:00 Concert
  - 4:00 Waltz by Edvard Grieg
  - 4:30 Cortege (for carillon) by John Courter
  - 5:00 La Volta by William Byrd
  - 5:30 Solveig’s Song * by Edvard Grieg
Monday at 1:00p.m.

Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Allegro

Ioannes de Gruijtters

A Popular Selection

If

David Gates

arr. Gary White

Dutch Carillon Composition

Old Rondeau for carillon 1974

Wim Franken

Caribbean Folk Song

There Once was a Little Boat 1974

Puerto Rico

arr. Raymond Keldermans

American Carillon Compositions

Melodeon for carillon 1982

Timothy Hurd

Flamenco for carillon 1980

Ronald Barnes

Monday at 3:00p.m.

Historic Recording by William De Turk

Prelude for Carillon

Ronald Barnes

Music of Johann Sebastian Bach

Prelude in C Major

Siciliano

Bist du bei mir

Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring

Rondino for carillon

J.H. Kersenbergen

Lake Music for carillon

Terry Vaughan

A Popular Selection

Let Me Call You Sweetheart

Leopold Friedman

Over There

George Cohan

Till We Meet Again

Richard Whiting

Smiles

Lee Roberts

Tuesday at 1:00p.m.

Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Prelude No. 3 for carillon

Matthias vanden Gheyn

Hymn-Preludes

Fairest Lord Jesus

German

Faith of Our Fathers

Henry F. Hemy

The Old Refrain

Fritz Kreisler

arr. Anton Brees

A Girlfriend or a Wife

W. A. Mozart

arr. P. Price

Music from Folklore

Chanson Populaire

arr. N. Yepes

Romance

arr. N. Yepes

Minuet & Trio for carillon

Staf Nees

Tuesday at 3:00p.m.

Historic Recording by William De Turk

Prelude for carillon

Albert C. Gerken

Hymn Arrangements for Carillon

Holy, Holy, Holy

John B. Dykes

The Spacious Firmament on High

Joseph Haydn

The God of Abraham Praise

Leonin

Three Pieces for Carillon

Rigaudon

Geo Clement

Paraphrase on a Siciliana of Pasquale Ricci

R. Barnes

Reverie

Mark Peterson

Film Music by Nino Rota

La Dolce Vita

The Sweet Life

Love Theme from Romeo & Juliet

Love Theme from The Godfather

Wednesday at 1:00p.m.

Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Etudes in a New Age 1988

John Courter

Minims – Visions – Pulsations

Music from Broadway

My Fair Lady Medley

Frederick Loewe

Street Where You Live

Lovely

I’ve Grown Accustomed

A Carillon Duet Performers: M. Myhre & W. De Turk

A Concerto for Two to Play 1981

Ronald Barnes

Allegro Moderato – Andante – Allegro

Wednesday at 3:00p.m.

Historic Recording by William De Turk

Carillon

G. Fr. Händel

Three Folksongs

Scarborough Fair

English

Cecilia

Flemish

Auprès de ma blonde

French

Etude for carillon

Gary White

Amazing Grace

American

How Great Thou Art

Swedish

Etude for carillon

Gian-Carlo Menotti

If

David Gates arr. Gary White

Edelweiss

Richard Rodgers

Anton Brees (Antwerp, Belgium) served as our first carillonneur from 1928 until his death in 1967. Named in his honor, the Anton Brees Carillon Library is the largest and most comprehensive carillon library in the world.

Milford Myhre retired in June 2004 after 36 years as our carillonneur. He obtained his musical training at the University of Nebraska, the University of Michigan, and the Royal Carillon School “Jef Denyn” in Belgium. President for both the GCNA and the World Carillon Federation, he has performed on three continents during his distinguished career of more than 50 years.

William (Bill) De Turk was director of carillon services from July 1, 2004 to October 31, 2011, after serving as assistant carillonneur and librarian since 1993. A native of the Philadelphia area, he received a bachelor of music degree cum honore from Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio, and master of music degree in organ performance from the University of Michigan.

Geert D’hollander was named Bok Tower Gardens’ fourth full-time carillonneur in October 2012 and is one of the finest in the world. He has studied piano, chamber music, choral and orchestral direction, fugue, and composition at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp, Belgium, and carillon at the Royal Carillon School in Mechelen, Belgium. He has taken first prize in more than 30 international competitions for carillon or composition.