

39th Annual Middlebury College Carillon Series
Prelude to Language Schools Commencement

August 16, 2024

3:00–4:00 PM

Middlebury Chapel and surrounding lawns

George Matthew Jr., Carillonneur
Middlebury College & Norwich University

German	Largo and Allegro from Fantasia in C	Georg Philipp Telemann
French	Prelude from First Orchestral Suite	Michele Corrette
Spanish	Andante Largo opus 5, #5	Fernando Sor
Italian	Largo from Violin Sonata	G. Tartini
Portuguese	Bachianas Brasileiras #5	Heitor Villa-Lobos
Ukrainian	The Ukrainian National Anthem Ukrainian Dance	Mykhailo Verbytsky Traditional
Arabic	Medley of Syrian Folksongs	Traditional
Hebrew	Medley of Sephardic Melodies	Traditional
Korean	Flower Wind Blows Warmly Valley Filled with Gunsmoke	Traditional Traditional
Chinese	Medley of Traditional Folksongs	Traditional
Japanese	Medley of Folksongs	Traditional

Native American	Huron Dance Haudenosaunee Song Maliseet/Passamaquoddy Medley	Traditional
ESL	Moonlight in Vermont California Here I Come Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor This Land is Your Land Middlebury Alma Mater	Jack Blackburn Al Jolson Irving Berlin Woody Guthrie

Biography



George Matthew Jr. has been carillonneur of Norwich University and Middlebury since 1986. A church organist since the age of 13, he is currently organist at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church of Middlebury, Vermont. For eleven years he was accompanist for the Middlebury Community Chorus. In 2005 he was named Artist of the Year by the Vermont Chapter American Guild of Organists.

Mr. Matthew has made 40 carillon concert tours of the US and 13 of Europe. In all, he has played over 200 carillons. He has composed and arranged about 100 pieces for carillon, including a number of ragtime piano works. He is a graduate of Columbia, Bridgeport, and Wesleyan Universities. He is married to Irish wire harpist Sherri Matthew.

About the Carillon

In the late Middle Ages, life was regulated by one large town bell tolling the hour. Over time, several small bells were programmed to play a melody alerting the people that the hour was about to strike. Many towns became competitive with increasingly beautiful melodies announcing the hour, and they were frequently changed—a laborious process of setting pins in a large rotating drum. In 1510, simultaneously in Oudenarde, Netherlands and Lubeck, Germany, a keyboard was added to the rank of little bells—voilà, a carillon! Now the town could have an unlimited number of melodies.

A carillon comprises at least 23 tuned bells arranged in a chromatic scale; less than 23 bells is a chime. A “full carillon” denotes at least 47 bells/four octaves. A “grand carillon” denotes four and a half octaves/ 53 bells or more. Middlebury’s carillon is 48 bells, a harmonious mix of American and French bells installed in 1985. Today there are about 750 carillons in the world; 178 of those are in the US.

Visit go.middlebury.edu/carillon for more information.