

LONGWOOD
GARDENS

Performance

Lisa J. Lonie, carillon

Friday, August 29, 2025

6 pm

Program

1. Advertising the Classics – Music in Television Commercials

Theme from *Interstellar* (Spacespace) Hans Zimmer (b. 1957)
arr. L. Lonie

Concierto de Aranjuez (Chrysler Cordoba) Joaquin Rodrigo (1901–1999)
arr. F. DellaPenna

2. Tintinnabulations!

Season of Cicadas (from Suite Seasons) Frank DellaPenna (b. 1953)

Beneath a Canopy of Trees Joey Brink (b. 1988)

3. Got Faith? Secular Songs with Surprisingly Sacred Symbolism

Let It Be Paul McCartney (b. 1942)
arr. J. DeVreese

The Prayer David Foster, Carol Sager, Tony Renis, Alberto Testa
arr. L. Lonie

Hallelujah Leonard Cohen (1934–2016)
arr. J. Brink

Numbered selections will be indicated by the tolling of a bell.



Program Notes

Tintinnabulations – Carillon Compositions

“Season of Cicadas” composed by Frank DellaPenna, musically charts Brood X cicadas’ short life: from a slow emergence from the ground after 17 years in 2021 to the feverish fluttering of mating, finally concluding with their slow death having born the next generation which dig into the soil and hang out underground for another 17 years.

“Beneath a Canopy of Trees” by Joey Brink is a 3rd prize in the Olmsted contest celebrating the 200th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of American landscape architecture.

Got Faith?

On any given Sunday afternoon, Ms. Lonie will run over to the St. Thomas tower for a quick practice session, churning out pop and classical pieces and everything in between. When she decided to be a more judicious in her choices and focus on sacred-style pieces appropriate for a Sunday afternoon, she started to thinking: “What traditional pop pieces have religious overtones?” Ahh... the challenge was born!

In “Let It Be”, McCartney seeks advice, perhaps, from the virgin mother, Mother Mary: *When I find myself in times of trouble / Mother Mary comes to me / Speaking words of wisdom, let it be. And in my hour of darkness / she is standing right in front of me / speaking words of wisdom, let it be.* While some scholars have speculated that McCartney is seeking help from his deceased mother, I think for today’s purposes, we’ll just run with the former.

“The Prayer” was famously sung by Canadian singer, Celine Dion and Italian tenor, Andrea Bocelli. The lyrics speak of the hope for safety, guidance, and peace: *Lead us to the place / Guide us with your grace / To a place where we’ll be safe.*

“Hallelujah” is a very complex metaphorical piece, with many references to the biblical story of King David of Israel: *Now I’ve heard there was a secret chord / That David played, and it pleased the Lord / But you don’t really care for music, do you?.* Subsequent verses divulge into the story of David and Bathsheba: *You saw her bathing on the roof / her beauty and the moonlight overthrew you.* In the fourth and fifth verses, however, Cohen switches to the story of Samson and Delilah (Judges 16). Delilah, a Philistine, coaxed Samson into revealing that the secret of his strength was his long hair, whereupon she took advantage of his confidence to betray him to his enemies: *She tied you to a kitchen chair / She broke your throne, and she cut your hair / And from your lips she drew the Hallelujah.*