

Internationally Known Carillonneur to Ring in AU's Summer Carillon Series

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Alfred, NY – Adrian Patrick Gebruers, president of the World Carillon Federation, will open the Wingate Summer Carillon Recital Series. Gebruers will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 29, on the Davis Memorial Carillon on the Alfred University campus. "Adrian Patrick Gebruers holds the unique distinction of being the only Irish-born carillonneur in the long history of the instrument," notes Laurel Buckwalter, AU's carillonneur and host for the summer recital series. Born of Flemish-Irish parents and a graduate of the National University of Ireland, Gebruers received his earliest training from his late father, Stef Gebruers, and then went on to study with Jef Rottiers and Piet van den Broek at the Carillon School in Mechelen, Flanders. The younger Gebruers this year celebrates his 30th anniversary as carillonneur of St. Colman's Cathedral in Cobh, succeeding his father in the position. St. Colman's carillon underwent a major restoration and modernization last year, making it the largest carillon in Britain and Ireland. Cobh is a harbor town on Ireland's southern coast. Gebruers is a frequent guest recitalist abroad, and has been the recipient of several travel awards and a research grant from the Irish Arts Council and the Department of Foreign Affairs, as well as a Tyrone Guthrie Bursary. A former assistant principal of Colaiste Muire in Cobh, Gebruers is now a lecturer in carillon studies at the Music Department of University College Cork. He is honorary president of the British Carillon Society and a vice president of Eurocarillon. Last August, he was elected president of the world federation. Gebruers is married to physiologist Dr. Elizabeth Gebruers; they have four children, two sons and two daughters. Davis Memorial Carillon has a console with a double row of rounded oak levers called batons, which are struck with loosely clenched fists as the carillon is played, plus a pedal board, explained Buckwalter. She welcomes guests to climb the 69 steps to the top of the glass-enclosed carillon to watch the visiting artists in action and to enjoy the view. Those who wish to enjoy the concerts from the ground may find good vantage points on the AU grounds, and along Upper College Drive. The best on-the-ground view of the carillon being played is from the lawn in front of the apartments behind Howell Hall. Those who wish additional information may call Buckwalter at 607 871 2234.