



Kaunas Carillon

In 1933, during the construction of the present building of the War Museum and the tower of the garden, a modern carillon was ordered in Marcel Michiels bell foundry in Mechelen (Belgium). In spring of 1935, the carillon reached the harbour of Klaipėda. Kaunas carillon consisted of 35 bells (the largest one weighed 574 kg, the smallest one – 7.4 kg), hand and feet keyboards (range a-flat, b-flat, c¹-a-flat³) and an automatic ringing shaft.

In 2006 Kaunas carillon was substantially renewed, restored (the old bells were ideally tuned) and complemented with 14 new bells cast in the Royal Eijsbouts Company. A new keyboard of model Standart 2000 was manufactured. The range of 49 Kaunas carillon bells: fis, gis, ais-gis⁴.

The repertoire of Kaunas carillon consists of very diverse music composed specifically for it as well as arrangements ranging from various folk melodies to classical works, contemporary and jazz compositions. It can be used as a solo instrument or in joined performances with various ensembles, a symphony orchestra, choir and soloists. Since 1992, carillon performances of jazz and original compositions have been included into the Kaunas Jazz festival.

Currently Kaunas carillon concerts are given by Austėja Staniunaitytė.

Kaunas Carillon Festival

The 2nd, 3rd of September.

The programme encompasses concerts, a conference, an exhibition of bells, projects joining carillon music with contemporary dance, fine arts, folklore and electronic music.

Carillonneurs are invited to participate!
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