

Lamont School of Music & Theatre

Carillon Recital Series

The Tuning of the Sky

Joey Brink

Carillon

Sunday, September 27, 2026

5:00 p.m.

Williams Carillon, Ritchie Center Lawn



Robert & Judi Newman Center
for the Performing Arts

This is an outdoor concert.

Listen from anywhere you can see the tower. The south courtyard (off Asbury Ave), the bleachers beneath the tower, and the north amphitheater are all great places to listen.

Following the concert, meet in the south courtyard (off Asbury Ave) to greet the performer and take a tour of the tower.

Program

I. Did Anyone Check the Weather?

Brouillard (Fog) (2016)

Stefano Colletti
(b. 1973)

All Kinds of Whether (2016)

Joey Brink
(b. 1988)

Raindrops
Deluge
Sunburst

The Rainbow Connection

from *The Muppet Movie*

Paul Williams (b. 1940)

Kenneth Ascher (b. 1944)

Arr. Sally Slade Warner

II. Too Much Air

Air

J. S. Bach

(1685–1750)

Arr. Leen 't Haart

Air (from Air & Dance) (1998)

Alice Gomez
(b. 1960)

Londonderry Air

Traditional Irish
Arr. Sally Slade Warner

III. Out of Air

Atmospheric (2019) **Alex Johnson**
(b.1997)

IV. Cloudy with a chance of...

Reverie (2015) **Joey Brink**

Walking on Clouds (2006) **Geert D'hollander**
(b. 1965)

Colors of the Wind **Alan Menken**
from *Pocahontas* (1995) (b. 1949)

V. The Tuning of the Sky

The Tuning of the Sky (1978) **Richard Feliciano**
(1930–2026)

Selected Program Notes

Did Anyone Check the Weather

Brouillard: Stefano Colletti's composition *Sonatine* (2001) has become a staple of 20th century carillon composition and is one of my favorite pieces ever written for carillon. *Brouillard* (Fog) is a beautiful piece of imagery, in a similar impressionist style to *Sonatine*. I was invited to premier *Brouillard* in 2016 at Yale University and have been performing it ever since.

All Kinds of Whether: No, this isn't a typo! I composed this suite of 8 weather patterns as a kind of choose-your-own adventure, or create your own storm! Each weather pattern (movement) has 8 possible endings that the performer can take to transition to another weather pattern, or end the suite entirely, concluding a storm. Whether a given storm lasts just a few minutes or an entire hour is entirely dependent on the diabolical whims of the performer. Lucky for you, the storm that I'm playing today, *Raindrops->Deluge->Sunburst*, is one of my favorite storms. But with 8 weather patterns and 56 transitions, there are indeed 109,600 possible storms that I could unleash on you, and that's not even counting cyclical storms. Yikes.

Finally, some rainbows!

Too Much Air

No, these three selections aren't really about the air we breathe. 'Air' in this context means 'aria', or lyrical melody. But we can pretend otherwise.

A bit about Alice Gomez: Associate Professor at San Antonio College, she is one of the few prolific carillon composers who herself does not play the instrument. As a composer for opera, ensemble, and instrumental solos, she mixes her Latin American influences with classical and popular styles.

Out of Air

Okay. This one is intense, both to play, and to listen to. The minimalism crawls under my skin and distorts my sense of time in a way that few pieces of music do. I don't play Alex Johnson's *Atmospheric* very often, but every time I do, I feel like I've been ejected from a high-altitude balloon and left to fend for myself in the outer reaches of the exosphere. And I love it.

Cloudy with a chance of...

Don't fear the clouds. These three pieces are a necessary breath for me after playing *Atmospheric*, and possibly for you also.

Reverie gives me the feeling of drifting off into a peaceful dream while sitting in a meadow of wildflowers as clouds float by overhead.

Geert D'hollander is the most prolific carillon composer today. I've been very fortunate to study performance and composition with him, both in Belgium in 2011 and in Florida in 2015.

The Tuning of the Sky

Somehow, I consider this piece one of my all-time favorites, even though I've never performed it (until now), and I've only ever heard it performed live once. I have a kind of reverence for this piece, and have perhaps been reluctant to perform it for fear that I would not do it justice. But really, I am elated to play it, and to have designed an entire program around it. Composer Richard Felciano was Professor of Music at University of California, Berkeley, when he was first introduced to the carillon. The Tuning of the Sky is his only composition for solo carillon.

Biography



Joey Brink is University Carillonist and Assistant Professor of the Practice at the University of Denver, where he performs daily on the 65-bell Williams Carillon and teaches students in the Lamont School of Music. Prior to his appointment in 2022, Brink served as University Carillonist at the University of Chicago 2015-2022. An award-winning performer and composer, Brink has released two albums for

carillon, composed over thirty original works for carillon, and published over fifty arrangements for carillon. In 2014 he won first prize in carillon performance at the International Queen Fabiola Competition in Belgium. Prior to his career as a musician, Brink obtained an engineering degree from Yale University and conducted robotics research at NASA Ames. He also writes young adult fiction—his first two books will be published in 2028 and 2029 with Penguin Random House—and runs an Etsy store designing musical marble toys.

The Seventeenth Annual Carillon Recital Series Williams Tower Carillon

Sunday, April 12, 5:00 p.m.

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Sunday, July 5, 5:00 p.m.

Carol Jickling Lens

Sunday, August 23, 5:00 p.m.

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Sunday, September 27, 5:00 p.m.

Joey Brink

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