

Stone Mountain Carillon Ringing

Stone Mountain Park previewed its newly installed "Carillon Americana" Monday evening in what was described as a "totally new musical experience" for the Atlanta area.

Tiny hammers striking small bronze rods sent the genius of Tschalkovsky and Stephen Foster ringing against the pines and granite of the park as carillonneur Herbie Koch selected a variety of numbers to illustrate the versatility of the 610-bell instrument.

The carillon—largest instrument of its kind in the world—was created for the Coca-Cola Tower at the New York World's Fair, then donated by Coca-Cola to Stone Mountain Park.

Koch, who has played the carillon informally at the park for a week, said the actual sound of the cast-bronze bells would be almost inaudible to the human ear if it weren't magnified more than 1 million times by some 35 speakers in the 13-story Carillon Tower, which rises at the edge of Stone Mountain Lake.

Included in Koch's selection Monday evening were: "Ah So Fair" from "Martha," "Beautiful Dreamer" and "Gentle Anns" by Stephen Foster, "Theme from Piano Concerto" by Tschalkovsky, "My Heart at

Thy Sweet Voice" from "Sampson and Delilah" and "Evening Star" by Richard Wagner.

Nightly preview concerts will continue throughout the week, park authorities said, with performances at 8 o'clock.