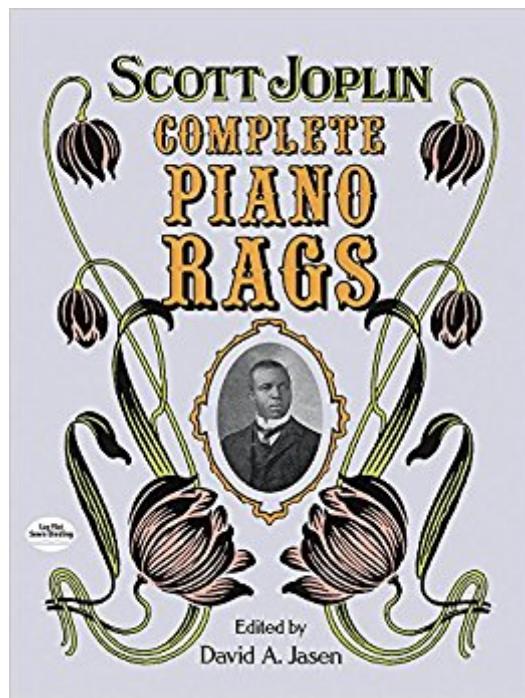


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Complete Piano Rags (Dover Music For Piano)



Synopsis

Throughout history, few musical crazes have hit with such impact, had such a heyday and lingered so hauntingly as ragtime. Ragtime arrived on the upswing of Tin Pan Alley, when the popularity of pianos in the home was reaching its peak and an endless stream of sheet music flowed out to meet the demand. In the early 1900s, no name was more prominent on those sheet-music covers and no one wrote ragtime music more brilliantly than Scott Joplin. This wonderful book brings together in one superbly produced playing edition all thirty-eight of Scott Joplin's piano rags, including his six collaborations, plus Joplin's own primer on how to play ragtime, the "School of Ragtime." Each rag has been reprinted, along with its sheet-music cover, from the original publisher's edition. At the Williams' Brothers saloon in Sedalia, Missouri, Scott Joplin was known as "The Entertainer," and in 1897, in the upstairs room called the Maple Leaf Club, he wrote the rag that would one day be the first to sell over a million copies in sheet-music form. In time the "Maple Leaf Rag" also became the most recorded composition on piano roll, with forty known versions. Most of Joplin's other rags were hits as well. Many bear the playful names that were given most rags, names like "The Strenuous Life," "Heliotrope Bouquet," and his last published piece, the "Silver Swan Rag." One of them, "The Entertainer," triggered a major revival of interest in his work when it was incorporated into the score of the popular film *The Sting*. All of them are here, each bearing the mark of Joplin's supreme originality. As ragtime authority David A. Jasen observes in his Introduction: "For pianists everywhere, this folio contains ragtime masterpieces which, when learned, will provide unlimited joy."

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Customer Reviews

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My son loves playing ragtime, and Scott Joplin is his favorite. He asked for this book for his birthday and he loves it. He's been tearing through it! Already I've heard three different rags being played in the house in the last couple of days, "The Entertainer", "Magnetic Rag", and "Swipesy". I find ragtime music entertaining to listen to, but fascinating to watch being played. The hand movement looks like it would be difficult to play. My son reports that although it takes a little getting used to, it is fun to play once you get it. If I am being objective, I would classify him as an intermediate piano player with some real talent. He's been playing for about four years. About the book itself. It looks

great, with a classy old-style look. It's quality made. It's heavy enough that it stays open on the piano with a simple clothes pin. And it's large enough to read. My son wanted actual Scott Joplin music, not arrangements, and from what I can tell, these are the real deal.

This is a great collection of Scott Joplin's Rags. If you are interested only in his rags, this is the best collection I have seen, which is not unusual for a Schirmer's Library publication (They always have great collection books). This book also includes several waltzes. This collection however is missing 2 rags: Sensation Rag and Silver Swan Rag. Sensation rag was actually written by Joseph Lamb and arranged by Scott Joplin which is probably why it was not included in this collection. Silver Swan Rag was "attributed" to Scott Joplin in 1971, so for whatever reason it was not included in this collection. However, Silver Swan Rag and Sensation can be downloaded as sheet music for free on the internet since it is public domain and then when you buy this Schirmer book you can say you have all of his rags including collaborative rags. This Joplin Complete Rags by Schirmer has 42 rags (43 if you include the School of Ragtime exercises). Great book I highly recommend. It comes in a spiral bound or non-spiral bound. I purchased the spiral bound for a few more dollars to save the headache of having pages close while playing and it eliminates the need for a Boston clip to hold pages open. If the seller does not specifically say that it is the spiral bound, or professional edition, I bought this Schirmer book of complete rags because I already own all of his other works of waltzes, etc. However, if I did not already own his other works in various other collections I have I would have not bought this Schirmer book and purchased "Scott Joplin -- Complete Piano Works: Rags, Waltzes, Marches" which has all his rags, waltzes, original works, collaborative works, miscellaneous works (including Sensation and Silver Swan Rag). That is by far the most complete Joplin book available that I know of and I cannot find any pieces whatsoever not included in that edition. Recommendation: If you want just the rags and not ALL of Joplin's works, then this Schirmer book is awesome. However, if you want all of his works in one book, "Scott Joplin -- Complete Piano Works: Rags, Waltzes, Marches" is the best collection out there. I do not see any missing pieces in that collection and every other collection I have seen has at least a few missing pieces.

There is a commonly perceived haunting element to Scott Joplin's music-perhaps due to the century-old piano rolls we possess. In any case, this book doesn't stop short of capturing said sentiment. As with all of Dover's output, "Compete Piano Rags" boasts all the salient sections, along with some very clear printing. What's more: the book opens with several ragtime warm-ups put together by the editors. There is no reason the ragtime scholar should ignore the item.

This book is easy to read because the notes are large. Thank you. I am very happy with this purchase. I have a lot of fun work to do. Thank goodness for Youtube. At least I can listen to the masters while I start learning "Maple Leaf Rag." I'll tackle the "Entertainer" after that. I am so excited about this purchase. This book and lots of practice will bring my piano playing to a new level. Have fun with these compositions! I know I will. This book has practice lessons before you even get to the compositions. Nice! There are 38 compositions. I hope I counted correctly. There's more than enough to expand your Ragtime repertoire. There's also an introduction that gives a brief biography about Scott Joplin. Dover Publications also includes six additional pages of musical publications you may be interested in at the end: Dover Orchestral Scores; Piano and Keyboard Editions, Popular Songbooks, and Popular music. This Scott Joplin publication also has pictures that represent the times when Ragtime was King. I LOVE this book. It's so much richer than the notes of the compositions. It's a little library of sorts. I'm happy with this purchase, and you will be too. Enjoy!

Doesn't have some family favorites, most notably, Bink's Waltz is absent from this collection.

A very good introduction to rags for those who already play piano -- includes a little instruction section on rhythms at the start. Only 4 stars because, like many music books, it doesn't stay open well on a piano music rack. Spiral-binding would be helpful.

Item as described - fast shipping - thanks!

For me, Joplin is crazy hard to play. But ooooh so worth the effort. Once you get a Joplin song into your fingers' muscle memory, it is simply addictive to play. Warning: pounding all the octaves is going to work out muscles you didn't even know you had. I have both the Jackson and this Schirmer Joplin books. The Jackson book comes with pictures of the original rag sheet music covers, as well as several pages of fascinating history and background of Joplin. But this Shirmer book's printing is clearer than Jackson's, which is great on the eyes, especially when your fingers are going to be bouncing all over the piano.

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