

Scott Joplin (between July 1867 and January 1868 – April 1, 1917) was an American composer and pianist. He achieved fame for his unique ragtime compositions, and was dubbed the "King of Ragtime." During his brief career, Joplin wrote 44 original ragtime pieces, one ragtime ballet, and two operas. One of his first pieces, the "Maple Leaf Rag", became ragtime's first and most influential hit, and has been recognized as the archetypal rag.

The Ragtime Dance was performed in Sedalia, Missouri on November 24, 1899 but it wasn't published until 1902. John Stillwell Stark had announced the publication of "The Ragtime Dance" in September 1899, but had doubts about the marketability of the piece and delayed publication. When he eventually published it in 1902, at the urging of his daughter, it was a commercial failure. Marvin Hamlisch incorporated "The Ragtime Dance" into a medley for the soundtrack of the Oscar-winning 1973 film *The Sting*. The song also appeared in the soundtrack of the 1978 film *Pretty Baby* and the 1980 Broadway musical revue *Tintypes*.

Dr. Michael Pratt has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Croswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Mikhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

The Ragtime Dance

Duration 3:55

a Stop-Time Two-Step from
The Red Back Book

Scott Joplin

Arr. by Michael Pratt
for Brass Septet

Not too fast $\text{♩} = 76$ A

Trumpet in B \flat 1 *f* *mf*

Trumpet in B \flat 2 *f* *mf*

Trumpet in B \flat 3 *f* *mf*

Trombone *f* *mf*

Euphonium *f* *mf*

Tuba *f* *mf*

Banjo *f* *mf*

B \flat Tpt. 1 *cresc.*

B \flat Tpt. 2 *cresc.*

B \flat Tpt. 3 *cresc.*

Tbn. *cresc.*

Euph. *cresc.*

Tuba *cresc.*

Bjo. *cresc.*