



# My Composer Playlist

By: Jorge Jorda



## Scott Joplin

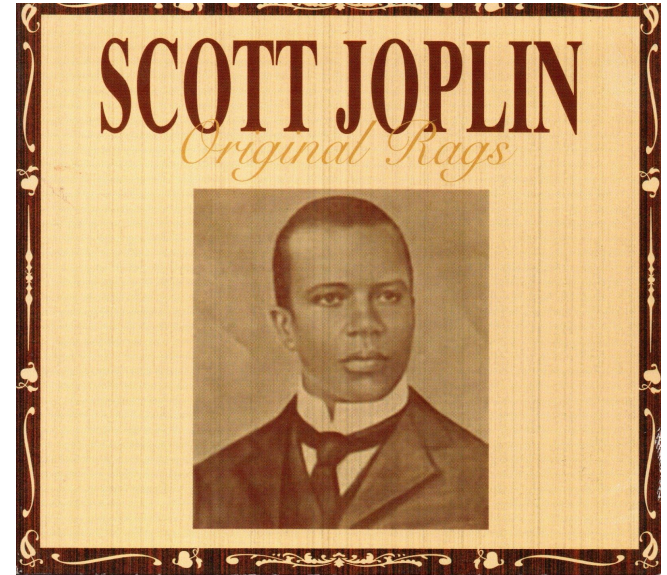
## Scott Joplin Fun Facts (Childhood)

- Scott Joplin was born, somewhere between July 1867 and January 1868, and died on April 1st 1917.
- Did you know that his father was actually a slave.
- Scott Joplin was very lucky to learn music. Most Black American around the time he was born would not have this chance, however his mother was very keen in letting him learn music.
- He spent his childhood in Northern Texas. By 1880 his family moved to Texarkana, where he studied piano with his local teacher.



## Scott Joplin Fun Fact (Musical Era)

- The era in which Scott Joplin composed in was the ragtime era.
- During this era, Scott Joplin was considered the greatest composer of 'ragtime.' In fact he was most called, 'The King Of Ragtime.'
- He was the one who made ragtime very popular. In fact, this is what made people to hear and write jazz that came afterwards.
- Scott Joplin was the one who set America the scene to create popular music over the last century.
- Scott Joplin had a huge influence on both jazz music and popular music for the last 100 years.



## Scott Joplin Fun Fact (Musical Era) - 2

- The piece in which Scott Joplin became famous was his piece 'Maple Leaf Rag.' It appeared in 1899. This piece sold around 75,000 copies in the first six months it was released. This piece was name after the Maple Leaf Club which was where Scott Joplin used to play piano.
- After Scott Joplin death, ragtime music was almost forgotten about as jazz music became more popular, however it became popular again in 1970, especially when 'The Entertainer' was used in a 1973 'The String.'



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1. **Harmony Club Waltz** - This piece was written on 1896. This piece wasn't well known as it was at least around a few years before any of his more well-known rag songs came to be. Due to the fact that it wasn't well-known, there weren't anything affecting this piece. The reason to why I chose this piece is because it sounds majestic and peaceful, while also being cheerful and exciting. It reminds me of a dance that you should do beautifully but also not forgetting to have fun while doing it.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kw6v-5VZnIM&ab\\_channel=Jobeanie123](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kw6v-5VZnIM&ab_channel=Jobeanie123))

2. **Maple Leaf Rag** - This piece was written on 1916. This piece was one of Scott Joplin most important piece as it was the piece that made him famous. This piece of music is famous, even till this day as it was used and listen to by many people. This piece was one of Scott Joplin early work, while it also became a model for many ragtime composition. The reason to why I chose this piece is because of the fact that I heard it a lot. This piece reminded me of people in a bar fighting, while also being funny.

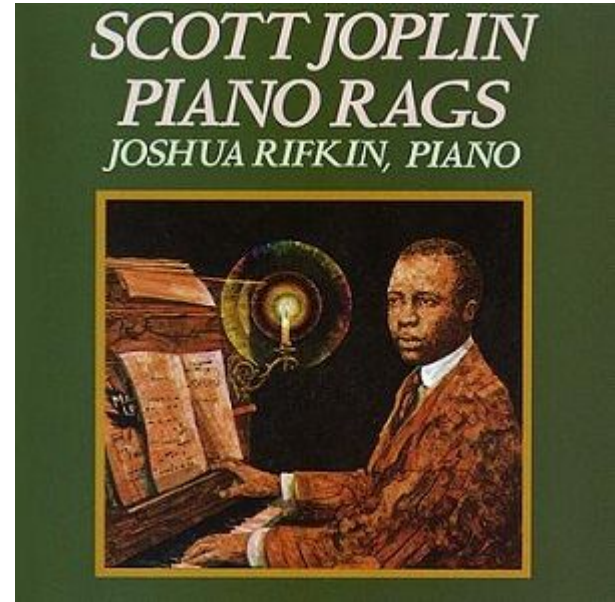
([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMAAtL7n-rc&ab\\_channel=TJaep](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMAAtL7n-rc&ab_channel=TJaep))



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3. The Entertainer - This piece was written during 1902. This piece was a bit famous during the time Scott Joplin was alive, before Maple Leaf Rag. This piece was one of Scott Joplin most famous songs however, the time he died and when ragtime music was showing its downfall, this critical piece was the one that saved Scott Joplin music and what made him popular in modern day society. The reason to why I chose this piece is because it reminded me of the silly, old, and funny, television shows that used this music during the play.  
([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSoXBkF832I&ab\\_channel=TomsMucnieks](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSoXBkF832I&ab_channel=TomsMucnieks))

4. A Breeze From Alabama - This piece was written in 1902. This piece isn't a famous piece and were one of those songs that appease the masses while also not making that big of an impact. The reason to why I chose this piece is because it clearly shows what type of person Scott Joplin is. It shows that no matter what type of music, either big or small, he would always play what he's originally known.  
([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5SNXkRmez8&ab\\_channel=RagtimeDorianHenry](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5SNXkRmez8&ab_channel=RagtimeDorianHenry))



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5. Gladiolus Rag - This piece premiered in 1907. This piece was famous during its time when it came out however it was overshadowed by its peers later on. When I first heard this piece I felt a mysterious, yet also cheerful atmosphere.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQDg2VcgYhl&ab\\_channel=JoshuaRifkin-Topic](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQDg2VcgYhl&ab_channel=JoshuaRifkin-Topic))

6. Elite Syncopations - This piece came out in 1974. This piece is very similar to 'Gladiolus Rag' however the most important thing about this piece was that it was revised many times by many different ragtime musicians with the centerpiece of the song belonging to Scott Joplin. When I first heard this piece it gave me the feeling of a swinging, easygoing atmosphere.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A44QDL-K-bY&ab\\_channel=RagtimeDorianHenry](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A44QDL-K-bY&ab_channel=RagtimeDorianHenry))



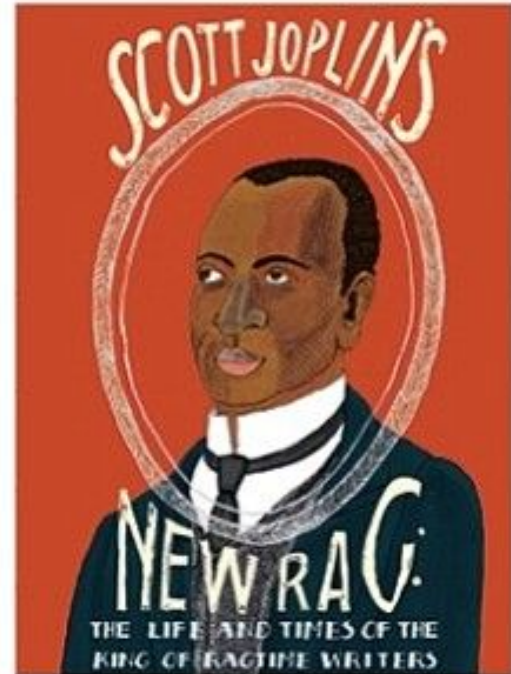
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7. Lily Queen - This piece came out in 1907. This piece was made by Scott Joplin and also with the collaboration of another ragtime musician, Arthur Marshall. When I first heard this piece, it gave me the feeling of having fun and doing everything in a cheerful manner.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlpFup897DI&ab\\_channel=ScottJoplin-Topic](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlpFup897DI&ab_channel=ScottJoplin-Topic))

8. The Nonpareil - This piece was released in 1907. This piece isn't as famous as all the other piece, it could be said that it's a decent piece. When I first heard this piece it gave me the feeling of a flying, fleeing, slow, yet also a cheerful and mysterious atmosphere.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHbRijoRH9Q&ab\\_channel=BachScholar](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHbRijoRH9Q&ab_channel=BachScholar))



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9. Weeping Willow - This piece was made in 1903. This piece is one of Joplin's simpler and less famous piece. When I first heard this piece it gave me the calm yet also happy atmosphere.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Kh7wh5ranI&ab\\_channel=BachScholar](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Kh7wh5ranI&ab_channel=BachScholar))

10. Kismet Rag - This piece was made in 1913. It was made together with Scott Joplin and Scott Hayden, another ragtime musician. When I first heard this, it gave me a cheerful, happy, and fun atmosphere.

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYB6bTxVBhQ&ab\\_channel=RagtimeDorianHenry](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYB6bTxVBhQ&ab_channel=RagtimeDorianHenry))



# Two Contrasting Pieces

## Maple Leaf Rag



The way in which these pieces contrast is that 'The Entertainer' gives off a calm, slow, and serious attitude while also being entertaining however 'Maple Leaf Rag' gives off a fast, silly, and also it could be called, a dumb attitude. These two show both contrasting attitude but they also show the writer characteristics the same way. They both show a bright and cheerful attitude while also being hard and machine-like. It shows that Scott Joplin, or what many called him 'The King Of Rag' that rag music is music that is bright and cheerful, while also being serious and intense.

## The Entertainer

