



SCOTT KIRBY

COMPOSER • PIANIST • VISUAL ARTIST

SCOTT JOPLIN: AMERICAN GENIUS

A LECTURE-CONCERT, AS PRESENTED AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program consists of a two-hour lecture/concert (and optional master class) which combines live piano music, historical information, and insight into the life and the music of one of America's most important composers, Scott Joplin.

QUOTES

"Critics call [Scott Kirby] one of the best interpreters of ragtime music on the scene today."

- Charles Osgood, CBS News Sunday Morning, 1998

"Today's best player of Scott Joplin music."

- Trebor Tichenor, author of Rags and Ragtime

"In Scott Kirby's playing we encounter the very essence of ragtime. He is the embodiment of the Scott Joplin ideal."

- Edward A. Berlin, Author of *King of Ragtime: Scott Joplin and His Era*

"Kirby is sensitive, without being self-indulgent. His technique is clear and eloquent, while retaining an earthy, down-home quality."

- Linda Kohanov, CD Review

SUGGESTED VIDEOS

Click the link below to view performance videos on YouTube.

- Scott Joplin (<http://tinyurl.com/kirby-joplin>)



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AUDIO SAMPLES

Click each album title to listen or download them from SoundCloud.

The Complete Rags of Scott Joplin: Volume 1

(<https://soundcloud.com/scott-kirby-piano/sets/complete-rags-of-scott-joplin-vol-1>)

The Complete Rags of Scott Joplin: Volume 2

(<https://soundcloud.com/scott-kirby-piano/sets/complete-rags-of-scott-joplin-vol-2>)



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BIOGRAPHY

A native of Ohio, Scott Kirby began his study of music at the age of six, and continued formal piano instruction for seventeen years. He worked under Robert Howat of Wittenberg University of Ohio, and Sylvia Zaremba at the Ohio State University. After obtaining an English degree from Ohio State University, Kirby moved to New Orleans and began his professional music career, as a street performer. In the following four years, he recorded the complete rags of Scott Joplin, and made his debut at all of the major ragtime festivals in the United States, as well as festivals in Belgium, France, Norway, New Zealand, and Hungary.

Kirby has served as Musical Director of the Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival in Sedalia, MO, and of the Rocky Mountain Ragtime and American Music Festival in Boulder, CO, as well as director of the San Juan Islands Ragtime Institute. His appearances include a segment on CBS News Sunday Morning with Charles Osgood in 1998, and at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. Kirby co-founded a record company (Viridiana Productions, L.L.C.), has made 25 recordings, and has composed over 150 original works for piano and other instruments. Admired by fellow pianists including George Winston, and hailed by Time Magazine as an "ace pianist," CBS News' Charles Osgood agreed that "...Critics call Scott Kirby one of the best interpreters of ragtime music on the scene today."

Kirby's artistic passion grew to include to visual art, and in 2005, while living in France, he completed 75 paintings and 28 piano compositions, including "The Prairie Devotionals," The paintings (belonging to a set entitled "Visions of the Great Plains") and the new musical works set the groundwork for his new multi-media project "Main Street Souvenirs." Kirby now lives in Boulder, CO and divides his time between composing, painting, performing and teaching.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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- **YouTube** www.youtube.com/user/ScottKirbyPiano
- **Google+** plus.google.com/114491343642210274366