Black History Month
Concert Series

Some Ragtime, Some Classical

February 10, 2016 at noon
Harold B. Lee Library Auditorium
Program Notes

Scott Joplin (1867/68–April 1, 1917)
"A pervasive sense of lyricism infuses his work, and even at his most high-spirited, he cannot repress a hint of melancholy or adversity ... He had little in common with the fast and flashy school of ragtime that grew up after him." – Joshua Rifkin in Scott Joplin Piano Rags liner notes.

William Grant Still (May 11, 1895 - December 3, 1978)
“His musical training was twofold., embracing the European tradition at Oberlin College, and the African-American in his work with W. C. Handy in New York.” – Michael Fleming in Afro-American Symphony liner notes.

Quincy C. Hilliard (Sept. 22, 1954-)
"I've always felt I had a purpose...In order to be a success, I must plan, have a purpose, have a dream... My talent is that I work hard. That’s the talent I have. I just work like crazy."

Henry Thacker Burleigh (Dec. 2, 1866–Sept. 12, 1949)
“In Negro spirituals my race has pure gold...In them we show a spiritual security as old as the ages... These songs always denote a personal relationship. It is 'my Saviour,' 'my sorrow,' 'my kingdom.' The personal note is ever present."

Margaret Bonds (March 3, 1913 – April 26, 1972)
“I was in ... this terribly prejudiced place--I came in contact with this wonderful poem, “The Negro Speaks of Rivers,” and I'm sure it helped my feelings of security. Because in that poem he [Langston Hughes] tells how great the black man is...and I know that poem helped save me.”

Robert Hayden (August 4, 1913 – February 25, 1980)
“Reclaim now, now renew the vision of / a human world where godliness / is possible and man / is neither gook nigger honkey wop or kike / but man / permitted to be man.”

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Swipesy: Cakewalk........................................Scott Joplin
Daron Bradford, clarinet
Janet Bradford, piano

The Entertainer..........................................Scott Joplin
Cristina Bean, flute
Robert Maxwell, flute
Janice Bunker, piano

If you should go........................................William Grant Still
Song for the lonely.....................................William Grant Still
Scott Self, bassoon
CJ Madsen, piano

Coty.......................................................Quincy C. Hilliard
Daron Bradford, clarinet
John C. Leavitt, piano

Ethiopia saluting the colors.........................H. T. Burleigh
Text by.................................................Walt Whitman

The negro speaks of rivers..........................Margaret Bonds
Text by.................................................Langston Hughes

Frederick Douglass (America 1968)............Tom Cipullo
Text by.................................................Robert Hayden
Robert Brandt, tenor
Scott Holden, piano