



SCOTT JOPLIN (1868–1917). Composer. Joplin began his music career as a teenager, playing in towns along the Mississippi. He organized his first band in Chicago in 1893. Joplin is called the King of Ragtime for his

development of that form of music. In 1899 he published his first and most popular piece, "The Maple Leaf Rag." In the 1970s, his opera *Treemonisha* was produced with great success.