

ARKANSAS BLACK HISTORY



Scott Joplin (1868?-1917) was a composer and pianist who was born in Texarkana, Texas, but grew up in Texarkana, Ark. He became known as the King of Ragtime, having written 44 original ragtime pieces. He also composed a ragtime ballet and operas in his short career. Scott Joplin rejuvenated American popular music and created an interest in African American music. Ragtime went on to influence jazz and big band swing music. Scott Joplin's music made a revival in the 1970s when several of Joplin's pieces were included in the score of the Academy Award winning film, "The Sting." To find out more about Scott Joplin or to find more examples of black excellence, visit the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center.



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HERITAGE