

TurpinTyme Ragsters Program Description

1. Touring Organization

The "TurpinTyme Ragsters" are a seven piece ragtime music ensemble based in Kansas City, Kansas. Our primary music goal is to recreate sounds from the ragtime era featuring music that was composed and performed in Kansas City, and beyond. This includes composers like James Scott and Charles Johnson of Kansas City, Kansas, and E. Harry Kelly and Arthur Marshall of Kansas City, Missouri. Also featured are the musical arrangements of Kansas City based historical publishing houses of Charles E. Johnson and Jenkins Music, Inc. The instrumentation of the group is Clarinet, Cornet, Saxophone/Piccolo, Trombone, Tuba, Piano, and Drums. Although we are available anytime, bookings should be made well in advance of a performance date through Richmond Music Services, 4525 Cambridge, Kansas City, KS 66103 (913) 432-2851

2. Touring Program

The TurpinTyme Ragsters recreate, from the original arrangements, the ragtime sounds of composers Scott Joplin, James Scott, Charles Johnson, Joseph Lamb, Eubie Blake, "Jelly Roll" Morton, Tom Turpin (our namesake) along with many others. Our hopes are to turn the clocks back, musically, to an era of ceiling fans, ice cream socials, and Sunday concerts in the park. The "Ragsters" repertoire reflects the diversity of music from "turn of the century" America, including songs like "Dill Pickles", "The Entertainer", "Easy Winners", "Alexander's Ragtime Band", "Tiger Rag", "The Chrysanthemum", "Peaceful Henry", "12th Street Rag", "Ragtime Dance", and many more.

For the upcoming touring cycle we have added a wealth of new musical material to our programs including many from the Hogan Jazz Archive at Tulane University in New Orleans. Additionally, we will continue to perform songs from our CDs "Trouble", "Chicken Chowder", and traditional ragtime melodies familiar to all.

Our musical presentation unfolds with toe tapping ragtime songs, with historical information, and humor provided along the way. The "Ragsters" are comfortable performing in many settings, including, concerts, festivals, or even bar-b-ques. We are also happy to tailor our performance to meet specific audience needs including school programs and concerts. The TurpinTyme Ragsters have performed for numerous arts organizations, schools, and festivals throughout the Midwest. In 2008 the "Ragsters" will be featured artists at the prestigious Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival in Sedalia, Missouri.

3. Technical Requirements

Minimum floor space 16' wide x 12' deep
Quality sound system with 8 microphones
6 Manhasset style music stands
Acoustic Piano (Grand or Upright)
(We can provide sound and other equipment for certain venues)

4. Performance Fees:

Performances (2 -1/2 hours): \$1,000 to \$1,850
(within 150 miles of Kansas City)
Performance: \$1,650 to \$2,950 (add expenses
beyond 150 miles of Kansas City)
Adjunct school concerts: \$700