

KANSAS CITY RAGTIME AND BEYOND

Presents



Taslimah
Bey

Friday, February 21, 2020

7:00 PM

Old Mission United Methodist Church

(Directions on Page 4)

Admission - \$20 at the door

Students with parents or student ID admitted free

www.kcragtime.org or call 913 491 6923

Recognition

Kansas City Ragtime and Beyond would like to recognize individuals who volunteer their time to organize the concerts and other activities and bring talented musicians to Kansas City.

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“When I play ragtime, it feels like coming home”

Taslimah P. Bey



Taslimah P. Bey began studying classical music at age 16, and switched to jazz in her senior year of high school. She started researching ragtime music and the roots of jazz in college. When Taslimah heard Charlie Gabriel—clarinet and saxophone player with the Preservation Hall Jazz Band—play his horn, the music she had been reading about came alive. She formed Taslimah’s Ragtime Band, featuring the compositions of early ragtime composers, including Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, Tom Turpin, Artie Matthews, Harry P. Guy and James P. Johnson. The founding members of the band included jazz greats: Marcus Belgrave, Charlie Gabriel, Marion Hayden, Djallo Djakate, Dwight Adams, Tony Holland, Raycee Briggs and James Carte. For her efforts in performing the music and lecturing on the lives of these highly talented 20th century American composers, Taslimah received an award for the Preservation of African-American Music from the Society for the Culturally Concerned in Detroit.

Taslimah Bey -Continued

The late Nan Bostick described her experience hearing the (Tashlima Bey) band as follows:

They inspired cake-walkers, conga line dancing, and a tap dancer (who came in off the street) with their exhilarating arrangements of Harry P. Guy's Cleaning Up in Georgia, Walkin' and Talkin' and Heebie Jeebie Blues not to mention some really wonderful Jelly Roll Morton and Scott Joplin pieces...It cooked!!

Taslimah has performed at Jazz and Ragtime Festivals across the country, including the Scott Joplin Festival in Sedalia, Missouri, Greenfield Village's Ragtime Street Fair, and the West Coast Ragtime Society's festival in Sacramento. She has also performed with the Preservation Hall Jazz Band in New Orleans, and at the Blue Note Jazz Café in New York City. The Taslimah Bey Trio has performed at Preservation Hall in New Orleans, featuring their mentor, Charlie Gabriel. Taslimah recently performed with renowned ragtime pianist Reginald Robinson at the Piano Company in Waukegan, Illinois. Taslimah's Ragtime Band played last year at the Detroit Institute of Arts as part of the 2019 Concert of Colors festival. Taslimah has been featured in Detroit's Metro Times newspaper, and as the cover article for the Oakland University magazine. Last year, Taslimah was featured in an article in the Sedalia Democrat.

Where is the February 21 concert?

The official address of the Old Mission United Methodist Church is 5519 State Park Road, Fairway, Kansas. That probably does not help you much unless you have been a mail carrier in the Fairway area. It is very likely that you have driven along Shawnee Mission Parkway and, as you drove by a church and said to yourself, "Wow, That is a beautiful church!". That was probably the Old Mission United Methodist Church. It is on the south side of Shawnee Mission Parkway approximately 100 yards east of the Shawnee Mission Parkway/Mission Road intersection.

Editors Note:

Tashlima Bey was selected as the 2020 Scott Joplin Foundation Artist in Residence. As the Artist in Residence, she will spend February 24 through 28, 2020 playing concerts for most of the schools in the Sedalia area (Pettis County). It has been the custom for KCRB to invite the Joplin Foundation Artist in Residence to play a concert for us just before his/her weeklong time in the Sedalia area.

This year, the theme of the Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival will be “The Year of the Woman”. Tashlima Bey will be one of the many women, (many of whom you have heard as KCRB guests) who will be part of that celebration.

Do you need more ragtime, and possibly some jazz? Here are some thoughts on where you might find it between the Tashimah Bey concert (February 21, 2020) and our next KCRB concert with the Stephanie Trick/Paulo Alderighi (April , 2020)

Let's start with events close to home:

Every Wednesday through Sunday, Lynn Zimmer leads his quartet, playing New Orleans style jazz in the Back Room of the Gaslight Grill.

On the first Monday of each month the New Red Onion Jazz Babies, a seven piece group, also plays their version of New Orleans and Dixieland style jazz in the Back Room of the Gaslight Grill.

The Charles Templeton Ragtime and Jazz Festival will be held February 27-29, 2020 in Starkville, Mississippi. This is about a 10 hour drive; (620 miles) south of Kansas City. Featured artists this year will be Bill Edwards, Stephanie Trick, Paulo Alderighi, and Jeff Barnhart.

Although it is a way to the West Coast, The Jazz Bash By The Bay in Monterey, CA will be held March 6-8, 2020. If you like jazz, this is one of the better festivals and you will see some musicians who have performed for KCRB like Carl Sonny Leyland, Brian Holland, Danny Coots, and Jeff Barnhart. One of the popular groups at this festival is Don Neeley's Royal Society Jazz Orchestra from San Francisco.

Some reflections

“The Syncopated Times” is a publication that often includes tidbits of information which we share with our readers. The January 2020 issue is no exception. It includes an article: “Jelly Roll Morton”(1) that puts the relationship between jazz and ragtime in a totally new prospective.

We often separate ragtime and jazz into two different genres, separated in time. When one asks Google: “Who are the pioneers of jazz?” it responds “Earlier pioneers like Scott Joplin and Jelly Roll Morton paved the way for the swinging big-band sounds like Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington.”(2) Then, when one looks at the timeline, it demonstrates the tight linkage between ragtime and jazz – Joplin and Morton.

Scott Joplin was born in 1868, and published his first rag, “Original Rag”, in 1899 (3), when he was approximately 31 years old. Jelly Roll Morton was born in 1890 (4) and *was combining the syncopations of ragtime into jazz improvisations in 1910* at the age of 20. (5)

Both Joplin and Jelly Roll Morton eventually moved to New York City. For Joplin, the draw in 1907 was to be near his friend and publisher, John Stark (3). For Morton, there were opportunities to record hits like “Kansas City Stomp”.(4)

Some advocate that Scott Joplin was the inventor of ragtime. History demonstrates that others, such as Blind Boone were playing ragtime composed by themselves or unknown sources in the late 1800s. There is no question that Joplin was a (and possibly, the) major force in developing the ragtime style and popularizing ragtime.

Although Morton may not have been the inventor of jazz, he is regarded by fans and experts as one of the art form’s great innovators. (6)

Credits

1 “Profiles in Jazz” by Scott Yanow in “Syncopated Times”, January 2020

2 <https://www.google.com/search?q=jazz+biography&oq=jazz&aqs=chrome.4.69i57j0l7.21565j0j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

3 Rags and Ragtime; Jason, David; Tichenor, Trebor (1978)

4 www.biography.com/musician/jelly-roll-morton Some biographers claim Morton was born in 1885

5 Italicized part – direct quote from reference 1

6 Direct quote from 4

KANSAS CITY RAGTIME AND BEYOND MEMBERSHIP

The mission of KCRB is to bring to Kansas City and the surrounding area four to six concerts of ragtime and early American music, featuring nationally recognized musicians, each year; to expose all age groups to this music and educate all on the contributions of the Kansas City and Midwest area to our musical culture. Concert admissions do not cover the cost of our concerts. In order to continue to bring you these concerts and expose our youth and others to this music genre, we need your support in the form of KCRB membership and donations and attendance at our concerts. Memberships are renewable each year. We are now into a new year.

It is a new year for donations. All levels of membership will receive our newsletters. KCRB is a 501(c)(3) corporation and deductions allowable within the tax law apply. Donors at the bronze level and above, will be listed in KCRB newsletters, programs and other literature. Membership and donor levels are listed in the table below.

Donor Level	Annual Donation Amount
Basic Membership	\$25 to \$49
Bronze	\$50 to \$99
Silver	\$100 to \$249
Gold	\$250 to \$499
Platinum	\$500 and above

Past and new members – Please use the form below with a donation or to update your contact and preference information. A similar form is available on the website (kcragtime.org)

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_____ Send Newsletter by _____ e-mail _____ U.S. Postal Service

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Complete the above form and send it and your donation to: Jerry Lanese, 12401 Catalina, Leawood, KS 66209

Make checks payable to KCRB.

Kansas City Ragtime and Beyond
12401 Catalina
Leawood, Kansas 66209

KCRB Coming Events

February 21, 2020; 7:00 PM
Taslimah Bey

April 30, 2020; 7:00 PM
Stephanie Trick and Paulo Alderighi

June 7, 2019; 2:00 PM
Annual House Concert at home of Dr. and Mrs. Doug Cusick
featuring
Frederick Hodges