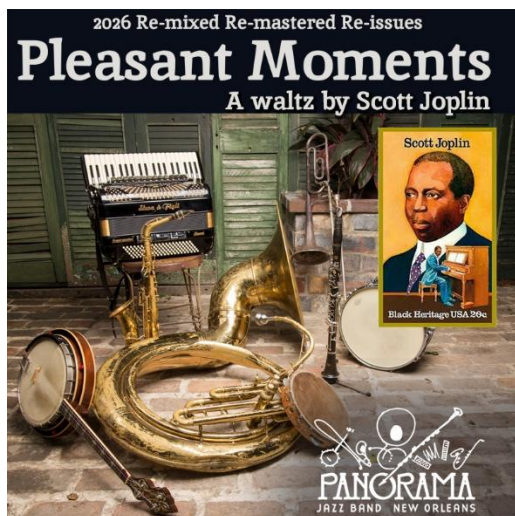




(originally released Apr 1, 2017)

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of his death, and in conjunction with the Second Annual New Orleans Ragtime Festival (produced by Panorama banjoist Patrick Mackey and opening today), we offer a Scott Joplin waltz titled "Pleasant Moments."

It was on this date 100 years ago that Joplin, the great American composer, died in New York. He was buried in a pauper's grave in East Elmhurst Queens which remained unmarked until 1974 when his music enjoyed a popular revival. Joplin was posthumously awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1976.

Although better known for such rags as "The Maple Leaf Rag" and "The Entertainer," Joplin's catalog includes compositions in a variety of styles and genres including a ballet and two operas. This waltz, originally published in 1909, comes from the days before recorded sound, when many homes included a piano and sheet music was the primary medium by which popular songs were circulated.

I asked Patrick to select a Joplin piece for Panorama to record and he recommended "Pleasant Moments." Then, working from the piano score, I made an arrangement for the band and the recording session was held just last Tuesday. The musicians learned the chart then played it down several times until everybody really dug the music within the notes on the page. And from that session, we have yet another lovely, interesting and wholly different-type track for you to add to your Panoramaland collection.

Thanks for listening.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben".

Ben Schenck
Panorama Jazz Band
New Orleans, LA

Recorded March 28, 2017 at Oak Street Recording, New Orleans, LA

Ben Schenck - Clarinet

Tomas Majcherski - Alto Saxophone

Charlie Halloran - Trombone

Matt Schreiber - Accordion

Patrick Mackey - Banjo

Steve Glenn - Tuba

Doug Garrison - Drums

Music composed by Scott Joplin (PD) and arranged by Ben Schenck (Snack Daddy Music)

Recorded, edited, mixed and mastered by Lu Rojas at Oak Street Recording, New Orleans, LA

Graphic design by Ben Schenck

Cover photo by Greg Miles