Approximate Performance Time: 2:20

DILL PICKLES

(A Ragtime Two-Step) by Charles L. Johnson (1903)

Arranged for Brass Quintet by Jim O'Briant

This arrangement is dedicated to the memory of E. Paul Harvey, Davenport, Iowa

The ragtime revival of the 1970's and 1980's focused largely on Scott Joplin and a few other composers of "classic Missouri rags." But there were other regional styles, and other composers of fine ragtime. Some were prolific; others wrote or published just one or two rags.

Ragtime performer and scholar Trebor Jay Tichenor writes that Kansas City, Missouri "was an important ragtime center from the early days." It was the Kansas City publisher, Carl Hoffman Music Co., which first published Scott Joplin's "Original Rags" in 1899. "Doc Brown's Cake Walk," also dating from 1899, was Charles L. Johnson first published rag, and "Scandalous Thompson" followed soon after. But he is best known for his "Dill Pickles" of 1906.

Arranger James O'Briant has added a four-count chromatic bass part in the reprise of the first strain. Otherwise, the arrangement is a virtually straight transcription of the original, but with the key lowered a third, from G Major to E-Flat Major. The reprise of the second strain in the subdominant key (originally C Major, here A-Flat Major) has been preserved.

The arranger's long-time friend and fellow tubist, E. Paul Harvey, was a dedicated fan of ragtime, and it was he who introduced Mr. O'Briant to this selection. This arrangement is dedicated to Paul's memory.

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