Follow Me: The Life And Music Of R. Nathaniel Dett

Anne Key Simpson

Racial Uplift and American Music, 1878-1943

Robert Nathaniel Dett often known as R. Nathaniel Dett, was a composer in the United States and Canada. During his lifetime he was one of the most successful black composers, known for his use of folk songs and spirituals for choral and piano compositions in the romantic style. He was among the first Black composers during the early years of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. His works often appeared among the programs of Will Marion Cook's New York Syncopated Orchestra. Dett himself performed at Carnegie Hall and at the Boston Symphony Hall as a pianist and choir director. Composer R. Nathaniel Dett was born this day in 1882. He was one of the first composers to incorporate spirituals into his art music. We'll hear two excerpts from his piano suite "In the Bottoms," performed by pianist Denver Oldham. (New World Records NW 367). Composer R. Nathaniel Dett Composer R. Nathaniel Dett was born this day in 1882. He was one of the first composers to incorporate spirituals into his art music. We'll hear two excerpts from his piano suite "In the Bottoms," performed by pianist Denver Oldham. (New World Records NW 367). Composer R. Nathaniel Dett. Composer R. Nathaniel Dett. Composer R. Nathaniel Dett. Audio will be available later today. Facebook.