

MR. A. PRESENTS

# FIRST RAGTIME PIECES

6 Charming Late Elementary Piano Solos

DENNIS ALEXANDER

From about 1890 until 1915, ragtime formed an important part of America's musical heritage. Its infectious style and gracefully syncopated rhythms encouraged people to have fun and forget about their troubles. This collection of "First Ragtime Pieces" will provide late elementary students of all ages delightful repertoire that will whet their appetites and arouse their curiosity for this charming art form.

Each piece has its own unique character and technical demands. Teachers will find that these miniature rags contain a wealth of good technical and rhythmical concepts for late elementary students of all ages. Encourage your students to play these pieces as musically as possible, and remember that these rags should not be played too fast! I have included recommended tempos for each piece with hopes that both you and your students will have a smile on your face as you explore the sounds and rhythms of "First Ragtime Pieces." Please enjoy!

*Dennis Alexander*

Chromatica Rag	. . . . .	.4
Over Rover Rag	. . . . .	.6
Reciprocal Rag	. . . . .	.14
Ruby Red Rag	. . . . .	.11
Switch Back Rag	. . . . .	.2
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*This collection is dedicated to my friend and publisher, Morty Manus.*

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About  
MR. A. PRESENTS

A few years ago, some of my piano students at the University of Montana decided that it would be much easier to refer to me as "Mr. A." Needless to say, I agreed that "Mr. A." would be less work, both in pronunciation and written form. Consequently, when coming up with a title for this new series of books, I decided that "Mr. A. Presents" would be the perfect way to introduce this new identity to all of you.

# SWITCH BACK RAG

Dennis Alexander

Moderato (♩ = 132)

Musical notation for measures 1-3. The piece is in 4/4 time. Measure 1 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble clef (G4, A4, B4) and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 2 continues the triplet in the treble and has a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 3 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Dynamics include *mf* in measure 1 and *f* in measure 3. Fingerings are indicated: 3 for the triplet in measure 1, 1 for the first note in measure 2, and 5, 1, 2 for the notes in measure 3.

Musical notation for measures 4-6. Measure 4 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 5 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 6 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Dynamics include *f* in measure 5. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 5 for the notes in measure 4.

Musical notation for measures 7-9. Measure 7 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 8 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 9 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Dynamics include *f* in measure 8. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 5 for the notes in measure 9.

Musical notation for measures 10-12. Measure 10 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 11 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Measure 12 has a treble clef accompaniment of G4, A4, B4, C5 and a bass clef accompaniment of G2, B1, D2, F2. Dynamics include *p* in measure 12. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 5 for the notes in measure 10.

