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Illustrated Sheet Music Collection

1896-1946

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Advances in color printing technologies combined with decreasing costs of publication led to a flowering of illustrated sheet music between 1890 and the 1920s.

This small collection is comprised of illustrated sheet music dating primarily from the first quarter of the twentieth century. Representing a cross-section of popular music at the time from minstrel tunes to patriotic marches, most of the songs were selected either for their representation of African Americans (usually in stereotypical and racist caricature) or as examples of pro-war propaganda during the First World War.

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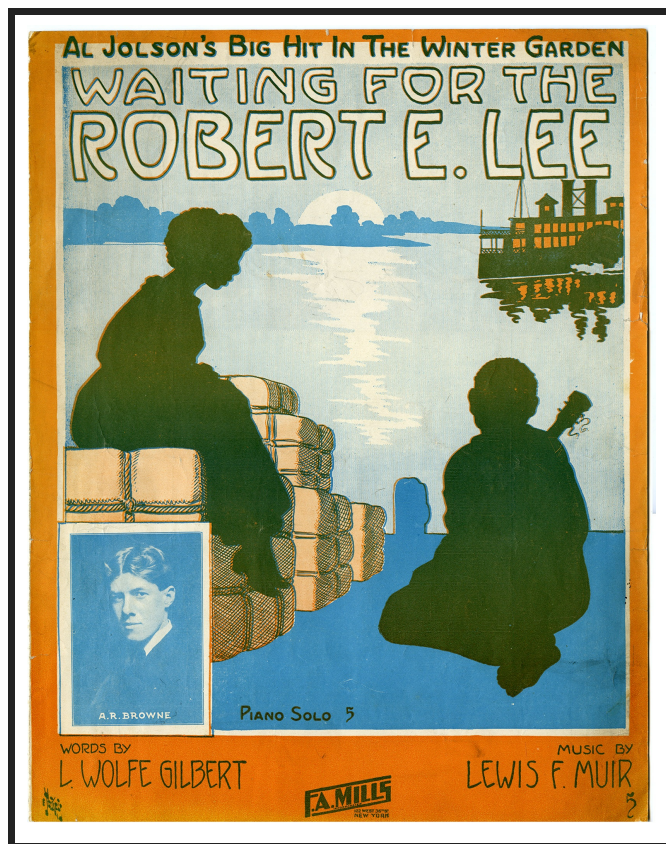
World War I

Background

Song sheets and sheet music have been a focal point for publishers in Britain since at least the seventeenth century and the United States since the latter half of the eighteenth century. For popular music in particular, publishers recognized early on that a well-chosen illustration drove sales, and as changes in printing technologies lowered the costs of producing illustrations, the front wrappers of popular songs were increasingly given over to eye-catching graphics. Lithographed covers became common beginning in the 1820s, and by the 1840s, color was added to the mix. As half-tone illustration further drove down costs in the latter two decades of the century, illustrated sheet music reached a peak of popularity.

Scope of collection

This small collection is comprised of illustrated sheet music dating primarily from the first quarter of the twentieth century. Representing a cross-section of popular music at the time from minstrel tunes to patriotic marches, most of the songs were selected either for their representation of African Americans (usually in stereotypical and racist caricature) or as examples of pro-war propaganda during the First World War.



Waiting for the Robert E. Lee

Inventory

Allen, Thos. S.: *By the watermelon vine, Lindy Lou*. S.I. : Walter Jacobs
1904

Arlen, Harold (music) and Johnny Mercer (lyrics): *Come rain or come shine (from St. Louis woman)*. New York : A-M Music Corp.
1946

Arlen, Harold (music) and Johnny Mercer (lyrics): *I had myself a true love (from St. Louis woman)*. New York : A-M Music Corp.
1946

Arlen, Harold (music) and Johnny Mercer (lyrics): *Legalize my name (from St. Louis woman)*. New York : A-M Music Corp.
1946

Armstrong and Clark: *Shaky eyes*. New York : M. Witmark and Sons
1909

Ash, Frances: *I'm going to love that guy (like he's never been lover before)*. New York : Bourne Inc.
1945

Atteridge (words) and Jean Schwartz and Al Jolson (music): *Tell that to the Marines*. New York : Waterson, Berlin and Snyder Co.
1918

Aufderheide, May: *Dusty rag*. Indianapolis : J.H. Aufderheide
1908

Autsam, G. H.: *Min kruslockiga baby (my curly-headed babby)*. Stockholm : Carl Gehrman
undated

Benoit, Geo, Robet Levenson, and Ted Garton: *My Belgian rose*. New York : Leo Feist
1918

Berlin, Irving: *Dance folio for piano*. New York : Irving Berlin
1925

Berlin, Irving: *Oh how I hate to get up in the morning*. New York : Waterson, Berling, and Snyder Co.
1918

Blawry, M. B.: *The Nicodemus two step: the latest Ethiopian oddity*. Boston : Vivian Music Publ. Co.
1896

Bowles, Fred G. (words) and Wilfrid Sanderson (music): *God be with our boys to-night*. New York : Boosey and Co.
1917

Brennan, J. Keirn (words) and Ernest R. Ball (music): *For Dixie and Uncle Sam*. New York : W. Witmark
1916

Brooks, Shelton (lyrics and music): *The Darktown strutters' ball: 'I'll be down to get you in a taxi, honey'*. New York : Leo Feist
1917

Brown, A. Seymour and Eddie Leonard (lyrics) and Nat O. Ayer (music): *Eddie Leonard's O-O-Ohio Song*. New York : Jerome H. Remick and Co.
1910

Brown, Lew and Charles McCarron: *What kind of an American are you? What are you doing over here?*. New York : Broadway Music Corp.
1917

Bryan, Alfred (lyrics) and Al Piantadosi (music): *I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier*. New York : Leo Feist
1915

Bryan, Alfred and William Weston (words) and Jack Wells (music): *Joan of Arc they are calling you*. New York : Waterson, Berlin, and Co.
1917

Buck, Gene and Dave Stamper: *By pigeon post (Ziegfeld 9 o'clock revue and new midnight frolic)*. New York : T.B. Harms and Francis, Day, and Hunter
1919

Burkhart, Addison: *All aboard for home sweet home*. New York : Al Piantadosi and Co.
1918

Burnet, Dana (lyrics) and James H. Rogers (music): *When Pershing's men go marching into Picardy*. Boston : Oliver Ditson Co.
1918

Busse, Henry, Henry Lange, and Lou Davis (lyrics and music): *When he plays jazz he's got hot lips: a blues fox trot song*. New York : Leo Feist
1922

Caddigan, Jack (words) and James A. Brennan (music): *The rose of no man's land*. New York : Leo Feist
1918

Cohan, George M.: *For the flag, for the home, for the family*. New York : Vogel
1942

Cohan, George M. (lyrics and music): *Over there*. New York : Leo Feist
1917

Cohan, George M. (lyrics and music): *Over there*. New York : Leo Feist
1918

Davis, Lou and J. Fred Coots (lyrics and music): *A love-tale of Alsace Lorraine*. New York : Spier and Coslow
1928

Drislane, Jack (lyrics) and Geo. W. Mayer (music): *Somebody else it's always comebody else*. New York : Haviland
1910

Drislane, Jack (lyrics) and Henry Frantzen (music): *Monkey doodle dandy*. New York : F. B. Haviland
1909

Dubin, Al; Irving Mills; Jimmy McHugh; and Irwin Dash: *Hinky dinky parlay voo?*. New York : Jack Mills
1924

Earl, Mary (lyrics and music): *Lafayette (we hear you calling)*. New York : Shapiro, Bernstein, and Co.
1918

Egan, Raymond (lyrics) and Richard A. Whiting (music): *They made it twice as nice as paradise and they called it Dixieland*. New York : Jerome H. Remick and Co.
1916

Ehrlich, Sam (lyrics) and Con Conrad (music): *Oh Frenchy*. New York : Broadway Music Corp.
1918

Eiger, Wladyslaw (music) and Unknown Underground Author (lyrics): *Song of the Polish Underground*. New York : Harmonia
1944

Elliott, Eddie and W. Max Davis (lyrics and music): *Nightie night (kiss yo' mammy nightie night)*. New York : Pace and Handy
1917

Fay, Frank, Ben Ryan, and Dave Dreyer: *When I send you a picture of Berlin you'll know it's over, over there, I'm coming home*. New York : Harry von Tilzer
1918

Flynn, Allan J.: *There's a green hill our in Flanders (there's a green hill up in Maine)*. New York : Al Piantadosi and Co.
1917

Ford, Lena Guilbert (lyrics) and Ivor Novello (music): *Keep the home fires burning (till the boys come home)*. New York : Chappell and Co.
1915

Friend, Cliff (lyrics) and Walter Donaldson (music): *Let it rain! Let it pour! (I'll be in Virginia in the morning)*. New York : Leo Feist
1925

Frisch, Billy and Archie Fletcher (words) and Alex Marr (music): *When Tony goes over the top*. New York : Joe Morris
1918

Gershwin, Ira (lyrics) and George Gershwin (music): *Lady, be good*. New York : Harms
1924

Gilbert, L. Wolfe (lyrics) and Lewis F. Muir (music): *Waiting for the Robert E. Lee*. New York : F. A. Mills
1912

Goodin, Joe (lyrics) and Geo. W. Meyer (music): *Brass band Ephraim Jones*. New York : Leo Feist
1911

Gordon, Mack (lyrics) and Harry Revel (music): *Underneath the Harlem moon*. New York : De Silva, Brown, and Henderson
1932

Graff, George, Jr. (words) and Bert Grant (music): *Nephews of Uncle Sam*. New York : Waterson, Berlin, and Snyder
1917

Grossman, Bernie (words) and Alex Marr (music): *Say a prayer for the boys out there*. New York : Joe Morris
1917

Habelow, Sam: *Good bye, Sally, good luck to you*. Boston : George Jeffrey and Samuel Habelow
1919

Harris, Charles K.: *Break the news to mother*. New York : Chas K Harris
1897

Hay, John (lyrics) and Oley Speaks (music): *When the boys come home*. New York : G. Schirmer
1917

Henry, S. R. and D. Onivas: *Indianola*. New York : Jos. W. Stern and Co.
1918

Hilliam, B. C. (lyrics and music): *Buddies*. New York : M. Witmark and Sons
1919

Hilliam, B. C. (lyrics and music): *Freedom for all forever*. New York : M. Witmark and Sons
1918

Holt, Arthur F. (lyric) and William T. Pierson (music): *Sons of America: America needs you*. New York : W. T. Pierson
1917

Howard, Jos. E. (music) and Philander Johnson (lyrics): *Somewhere in France is the lily*. New York : M. Witmark and Sons
1917

Howard, Jos. E. (music) and Philander Johnson (lyrics): *Somewhere in France is the lily*. New York : M. Witmark and Sons
1917

Howe, M A. De Wolfe (words) and George W. Chadwick (music): *The fighting men*. New York : C.C. Birchard and Co.
1918

Jerome, William and J. F. Mahoney: *God, spare our boys over there*. New York : Leo Feist
1918

Johnsen, I. (music) and Nils-Georg (lyrics): *Mor!*. Stockholm : Nils-Georg Musikforlag
1929

Johnson, Philander (lyrics) and William T. Pierson (music): *There's a call for you and me: carry on!*. New York : W. T. Pierson and Co.
1918

Jolson, Al, Bud de Sylva, and Joseph Meyer: *California, here I come*. New York : M. Witmark and Sons
1924

Judge, Jack and Harry Williams: *It's a logn way to Tipperary*. New York : Chappell and Co.
1912

Kahn, Gus (lyrics) and Egbert van Alstyne (music): *For your and my boy*. New York : Jerome H. Remick and Co.
1918

Kahn, Gus (lyrics) and Egbert van Alstyne (music): *On the road to home sweet home*. New York : Jerome H. Remick and Co.
1917

Lawrence, Scott (lyrics and music): *An educated coon is best of all*. Chicago : Sol Bloom
1900

Leighton and Leighton: *There's a dark man coming with a bundle*. New York : Helf and Hager Co.

1905
 Lewis, Sam M. and Joe Young (words) and Jean Schwartz (music): *Hello Central, give me no man's land*. New York : Waterson, Berlin and Snyder

1918
 Lewis, Sam M. and Joe Young (words) and M. K. Jerome (music): *Just a baby's prayer at twilight (for her daddy over there)*. New York : Waterson, Berlin and Snyder

1918
 Lewis, Sam M. and Joe Young (words) and Maurice Abrahams (music): *There's a million heroes in each corner of the U.S.A.*. New York : Kalmar Puck and Abrams

1917
 Longbrake, Arthur: *Nobody knows where John Brown went*. Philadelphia : Jos. Morris

1909
 MacDonald, Ballard (words) and Harry Carroll (music): *At the Dixie military ball*. New York : Shapiro, Bernstein and Co.

1918
 Madden, Edward (lyrics) and Theodore Morse (music): *Down in Jungletown*. New York : F. B. Haviland

1908
 Manley, Morris (lyrics and music): *Good luck to the boys of the allies*. Toronto : Morris Manley

1915
 Mansfield, Margaret F. (lyrics) and E. Maxwell Honeyman (music): *Ain't yo' comin' back to me ma Dinah Lee?*. New York : Metropolitan

1912
 Maschwitz, Eric (words) and Michael Carr (music): *He wears a pair of silver wings*. New York : Shapiro, Bernstein, and Co.

1941
 McCarron, Charles and Carey Morgan: *I'm glad I can make you cry*. New York : Jos. W. Stern

1918
 McCarron, Charles and Nat Vincent (lyrics and music): *When old Bill Bailey plays the ukalele*. New York : Broadway Music Corp.

1915
 McCarron, Charles R. and Cary Morgan (lyrics and music): *I'm glad I can make you cry*. New York : Jos. W. Stern and Co.

1918
 McKenna, William: *Mandy Lane*. New York : Jerome H. Remick and Co.

1908
 Mullen, J. B. : *Mandy: Negro love song*. Worcester, Mass. : M. Steinert and Sons

1899
 Murphy, Stanley (lyrics) and Ed Wynn (music): *I'm going to get myself a Black Salome*. New York : Shapiro

1908
 Murphy, Stanley (lyrics) and Harry Puck (music): *Cotton town*. New York : Joe Morris Music Co.

1916
 Murray, Ernest: *Bennington battle march*. Boston : Hub Music Co.

1927
 Newman, Charles (lyrics) and Lew Pollack (music): *He's my uncle*. New York : Bregman, Vocco, and Conn

1940
 Newton, E. W. (lyrics) and E. W. Newton and H. S. Leavitt (music): *Give with a smile*. Boston : Le Roy Phillips

1918
 Novello, Ivor (lyrics and music): *Laddie in khakhi (the girl who waits at home)*. New York : Chappell and Co.

1915
 O'Hara, Geoffrey: *K-K-K-Katy*. New York : Leo Feist

1918
 Oler, Ann Brown (words) and Elizabeth Oler (music): *Here's tot he Flying Corps*. Larchmont, N.Y. : Miss Elizabeth Oler

1918
 Portor, Laura Spencer (lyrics) and Harriet Ware (music): *Mammy's song*. Cincinnati : John Church Co.

1910
 Pourmon, E., J. (words) and Joseph Woodruff (music): *After the war is over, will there be any home sweet home?*. New York : Joe Morris

1917
 Queen, John (lyrics) and Charlie Cartwell (music): *I got mine*. New York : Howley, Haviland, and Dresser

1901
 Razaf, Andy (lyrics) and Thomas Waller and Harry Brooks (music): *Ain't misbehavin': Connie's Hot Chocolates*. New York : Mills Music Inc.

1929

Reisner, C. Francis and Benny Davis (lyrics) and Billy Baskette (music): *Good-bye Broadway, Hello France*. New York : Leo Feist
1917

Rice, Gitz: *Keep your head down Fritzie boy*. New York : Leo Feist
1918

Rose, Ed (words) and Abe Olman (music): *Oh, Johnny! Oh, Johnny! Oh! [later printing]*. New York : Forster
1917

Rose, Ed (words) and Abe Olman (music): *Oh, Johnny! Oh, Johnny! Oh!*. New York : Forster
1917

Sherwood, Ray (words) and Will Donaldson (music): *Are we downhearted? No! No! No!*. New York : F. B. Haviland
1917

Sinnott, James P. (words) and May Hartmann (music): *Somewhere in France*. New York : G. Schirmer
1917

Smith, Ella M. (lyrics) and Howard I. Smith (music): *The khakhi boys of U.S.A.*. Springfield, Mass. : Howard I. Smith
1917

Speak, Oley (music): *On the road to Mandalay*. Cincinnati : John Church
1908

Spickol, Max (lyric) and Johnny Fortis (music): *The canteen bounce*. New York : Edward B. Marks
1943

Stanton, Frank L. and S. C. Colburn: *A plantation ditty*. Boston : Boston Music Co.
1910

Stept, Sam H.: *I was her ewhen you left me; I'll be here when you get back*. New York : Irving Berlin
1945

Sterling, Andrew B. (lyrics) and Harry von Tilzer (music): *Trixie*. New York : Harry von Tilzer
1903

Sullivan, Alex and Harry de Costa: *At the coffee cooler's tea*. New York : M. Witmark and Sons
1918

Sullivan, J. L.: *It's great to be a soldier*. Boston : Strand Publishing Co.
1917

Taylor, Edwin L.: *The boys are coming home (Marcia)*. Springfield, Mass. : Locke-Taylor
1919

Turk, Roy and J. Russel Robinson: *Beale Street mama*. New York : Waterson, Berlin, and Snyder Co.
1923

Underhill, Andrew F. (words) and Robert E. S. Olmsted (music): *A hundred million strong: a war song for the nation*. Boston : C. W. Thomson
1917

Vanderveer, Billy J. (lyrics and music): *In Mobile town*. New York : Joe Morris Music Co.
1913

Vanderveer, Billy J. (lyrics) and Seymour Furth (music): *Hear the pickaninny band*. New York : Joe Morris Music Co.
1911

Werden, W. L. (words) and Frederick Gladdish (music): *He wqas only a private, that's all*. New York : Leo Feist
1904

Wiga-Winston: *Neger Wiegenlied: Tango*. Leipzig : Otto Junne
1932

Wood, Clement (lyrics) and Jacques Wolfe (music): *Three Negro poems*. New York : G. Schirmer
1928

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Gift of various sources, including transfer from the Forbes Library (World War I) and James and Sibylle Fraser (African American).

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