

# GEMS OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PIANO REPERTOIRE

Dr. Thomas Otten, NCTM, presenter

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**H. Leslie Adams** (b. 1932): *Piano Etudes*, Part II (2007; late intermediate-advanced)

14 etudes

CD recording by Thomas Otten on Albany Records

Published by American Composers Alliance

<http://composers.com/composition/twenty-six-etudes-solo-piano>

*Complete performance:* No. 11 in G Sharp Minor  
No. 13 in A Flat Major

*Performance excerpts:* No. 1 in E Major  
No. 2 in A Flat Minor  
No. 5 in C Minor  
No. 7 in B Major  
No. 8 in C Sharp Major  
No. 9 in E Minor  
No. 10 in F Minor  
No. 12 in F Major

**R. Nathaniel Dett** (1882-1943): *In the Bottoms* (1913; late intermediate-early advanced)

Prelude (Night); His Song; Honey (Humoresque);  
Barcarolle (Morning), Dance (Juba)

Published by Masters Music Publications, Inc.

*Performance excerpts:* Prelude: Night  
Dance: Juba

**William Grant Still** (1895-1978): *Seven Traceries* (1939; intermediate-early advanced)

Cloud Cradles; Mystic Pool; Muted Laughter; Out of the  
Silence; Woven Silver: Wailing Dawn; A Bit of Wit

Published by William Grant Still Music

*Performance excerpts:* Mystic Pool  
Muted Laughter

**Margaret Bonds** (1913-1972): *Spiritual Suite* (1967?; advanced)  
Valley of the Bones; The Bells; Troubled Water

only Troubled Water currently published; in *Piano Music of Africa and the African Diaspora*, Vol. 4, William Chapman Nyaho, editor

*Performance excerpt:* Troubled Water

**OTHER COMPOSERS/REPERTOIRE TO CONSIDER:**

**Scott Joplin** (1868-1917): Various rags (intermediate-early advanced)

**Florence Price** (1887-1953): At the Cotton Gin; Nimble Feet; Bayou Dance (intermediate)  
Sonata in E Minor (advanced)

**Ulysses Kay** (1917-1995): *Ten Short Essays*; *Four Inventions* (intermediate-early advanced)

**George Walker** (1922-2018): Sonatas 1- 4 (advanced)

**Valerie Capers** (b. 1935): *Portraits in Jazz*; *Ella Scats the Little Lamb* (intermediate)

**Adolphus Hailstork** (b. 1941): Sonatas 1-3 (advanced)