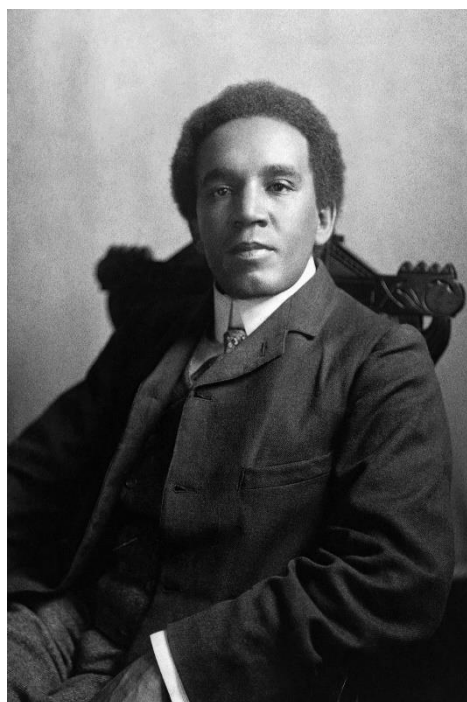





Composer Portfolios

COLERIDGE-TAYLOR



Name	Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Nationality	English
Born-Died	1875-1912
Coleridge-Taylor's Headstone reads:	<i>Too young to die: his great simplicity, his happy courage in an alien world, his gentleness, made all that knew him love him.</i>
	

Interesting Stories

Meeting President Theodore Roosevelt

Taylor visited the United States of America three times in the early 1900s. He was so popular that they named him the 'African Mahler'. On his first tour of America, the composer was invited to the White House to meet President Theodore Roosevelt. This was a significant moment for African Americans as it was rare for anyone of African descent to be granted this honour.

A Pioneer

Coleridge-Taylor was a pioneering composer, as he integrated African music into his compositions, such as *Four African Dances* or *Symphonic Variations on an African Air*. This was incredibly progressive; he was doing what Brahms had done with Hungarian music.

Facts

- Samuel Coleridge-Taylor was born on August 15, 1875 in Holborn, London.
- Coleridge-Taylor was of mixed race birth. His mother was Alice Hare Martin and his father Dr. Daniel Peter Hughes Taylor was from Sierra Leone.
- Alice Martin named her son after the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge.
- Coleridge-Taylor was brought up in Croydon, Surrey.
- Taylor's grandfather started teaching him to play violin at a young age.
- Coleridge-Taylor began studying at the Royal College of Music at the age of 15. Here he changed from studying violin to composition.
- In 1899, Coleridge Taylor married Jessie Walmisley, who had also been a student at the Royal College of Music. They had a son and daughter together.
- Composer Edward Elgar helped Taylor by recommending him to the Three Choirs Festival.
- Coleridge-Taylor was 37 when he died of Pneumonia.

Coleridge- Taylor's Music

Now we know more about the man, why not listen to some of his music!

- Piano Quintet in G minor, Op. 1 – 1893
- Nonet in F minor for oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, violin, viola, cello, contrabass and piano, Op. 2 – 1894
- Suite for Violin and Organ (or piano), Op. 3 (Suite de Pièces)- 1893
- Ballade in D minor, Op. 4 – 1895
- Five Fantasiestücke, Op. 5 – 1896
- Little Songs for Little Folks, Op. 6 – 1898
- Zara's Earrings, Op. 7 – 1895
- Symphony in A minor, Op. 8 – 1896
- Two Romantic Pieces, Op. 9 – 1896
- Quintet in F sharp minor for clarinet and strings, Op. 10 – 1895.
- *The Song of Hiawatha*, Op. 30 ("Overture to The Song of Hiawatha", 1899; "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast", 1898; "The Death of Minnehaha", 1899; "Hiawatha's Departure", 1900)