

## Steamboat Rag (Martha Mier)

What does the title mean?

A rag is a style of music (ragtime) where the LH has a stride bass and RH has syncopation in the middle of the bar (tie) creating a 'ragged' rhythm between the hands. The 'steamboat' gives an image of travelling up and down a river, for instance the Missouri where ragtime originated from.

What key is this in?

It begins in C major. At bar 25 the piece goes to F major (subdominant key) and then returns to C major bar 41.

Notation:

- $\text{♩} = 120$  Moderately with a steady beat - tempo marking
- $\text{♩}$  Crotchet = 120 - 120 beats per minute, metronome marking
- $\text{♩}$  4/4 - simple quadruple time - 4 crotchet beats/bar
- $\text{mf}$  Mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud
- $\text{mp}$  Mp - mezzo piano - moderately soft
- $\text{staccato}$  Staccato - short and detached
- $\text{legato}$  Legato/slur - smooth and well-connected
- $\text{f}$  F - forte - loud
- $\text{tie}$  Tie - combine the value of the notes
- $\text{dim}$  Diminuendo - gradually getting softer
- $\text{8va}$  8va - play an octave higher than written
- $\text{cresc}$  Crescendo - gradually getting louder
- $\text{||}$  Double bar line - denotes the end of the section
- $\text{\#}$  Sharp - raises the note a semi tone
- $\text{b}$  Flat - lowers the note a semi tone
- $\text{♮}$  Natural - cancels sharp/flat
- $\text{ff}$  FF - fortissimo - very loud