

Popular Sheet Music Now Available in Braille from Opus Technologies

Opus Technologies is pleased to announce that it has signed a braille music publishing agreement with Hal Leonard Corp. of Milwaukee, WI, the world's largest print music publishing company. The agreement grants Opus Technologies the rights to publish and sell braille editions of music titles from Hal Leonard's extensive catalog of print music.

For its first offering, Opus Technologies is publishing braille editions of 25 individual sheet music pieces. These consist of the piano vocal guitar (pvg), easy piano (ep), or piano solo (ps) versions of the following 10 best-selling popular songs:

1. Forrest Gump Main Title (Feather Theme): ep, ps
2. Great Balls of Fire (Jerry Lee Lewis): pvg
3. Heart and Soul: pvg, ep, ps
4. Imagine (John Lennon): pvg, ep, ps
5. Memory (From 'Cats'): pvg, ep, ps
6. My Heart Will Go On (Love Theme from 'Titanic'): pvg, ep, ps
7. Tears in Heaven (Eric Clapton): pvg, ep, ps
8. Unchained Melody (The Righteous Brothers): pvg, ep
9. What a Wonderful World (Louis Armstrong): pvg, ep, ps
10. Yesterday (The Beatles): pvg, ep

Each braille music piece is professionally transcribed and proofread according to the latest international standards for the music braille code, using uncontracted braille for all literary elements. The braille material is embossed double-sided on standard 11-inch by 11.5-inch braille paper, with 25 lines per page and 40 cells per line.

For the piano vocal guitar and easy piano versions of songs with lyrics, the braille music consists of three parts: (1) preliminary matter: title page and transcriber notes, (2) a vocal-guitar part using the line-by-line method, with three lines for lyrics, chord symbols, and melody, and (3) a piano part using the bar-over-bar method, with three lines for melody, right hand, and left hand. Each part starts on a separate sheet, so that a blind vocalist/guitarist can use the vocal-guitar part while a blind pianist uses the piano part. For piano solo versions, the braille music consists of two parts: (1) preliminary matter, and (2) a piano part using the bar-over-bar method, with two parallel lines for right hand and left hand.

Opus Technologies is selling both the braille and the corresponding print sheet music at the following prices: \$9.95 (braille), \$3.95 (print), and \$12.95 (braille and print). The braille music pieces can be bound individually or together with other pieces, using 19-hole comb binding with plastic front and back covers, for an additional \$2.00 per binding. Shipping and handling is \$5 per U.S. order (\$10 for Canada, inquire for other countries).

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