



- Born in London, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's abilities were noticed early on by his family.
- At age 15, he received a scholarship to attend the Royal College of Music.
- After completing his degree, focusing on composition, he was appointed as a professor at the Crystal Palace School of Music.
- With the success of his most well-known work, "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast," a cantata inspired by the work of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Coleridge-Taylor was able to make three tours to the United States.
- The popularity of "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" was only rivaled by Handel's Messiah and Mendelssohn's Elijah at the time. This cantata was combined with two more to create a trilogy called "The Song of Hiawatha."
- After Coleridge-Taylor's death in 1912, musicians were concerned that he and his family had received no royalties from his "Song of Hiawatha," which was one of the most successful and popular works written in the previous 50 years. (He had sold the rights early in order to get income). His case contributed to their formation of the Performing Rights Society, an effort to gain revenues for musicians through performance as well as publication and distribution of music.

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