

St. George's Episcopal Church

Intersection of 3rd Avenue and East 16th Street

New York

For more than 40 years Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949) was the baritone soloist at St. George's Episcopal Church in Manhattan. His contributions to the America's musical heritage have been characterized as unique and unsurpassed. From a background of poverty, Burleigh became an internationally esteemed composer, arranger, and artist. It was Burleigh's efforts that brought the Negro spiritual to the attention of the classical musical artists of the day. His greatest composition was "Deep River," which has been said to capture the yearnings of a people. He is considered one of the outstanding songwriters of the early 20th century. [B 12/8/76, 76001249]