

The Darktown Strutters' Ball

Shelton Brooks - 1917

A leading black composer of the era, Also wrote "Some of These Days" and "Walkin' the Dog".

On the 1st recording session (Jan. 30, 1917) of the Original Dixieland Jazz Band.

Rec. by Mugsy Spanier 1928, Luis Russell 1932, Miff Mole (with Red Nichlos) 1927, Ted Lewis 1927, Sidney Bechet 1954, etc.

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Concert Pitch

The Firehouse Jazz Band

Verse:

A

I've got some good news, Hon-ey, An in-vi-ta-tion to the Dark-town Ball, It's a
We'll meet our high-toned neigh-bors, An ex-hi-bi-tion of the "Ba-by Dolls", And each

ver-y swell af-fair, All the "high-browns" will be there. I'll wear my
one will do their best, Just to out-class all the rest. And there'll be

high silk hat, and a frock tail coat, You wear your Par-is gown, and your new silk shawl, There
danc-ers from ev-'ry for-eign land, The clas-sic, buckand wing, and the wood-en clog. We'll

ain't no doubt a-bout it babe, We'll be the best dressed in the hall. I'll be
win that fif-ty dol-lar prize, When we step out and "Walk the Dog".

Chorus:

B

down to get you in a tax-i Hon-ey, You bet-ter be read-y a-bout half-past eight.

Now Dear-ie, don't be late, I want to be there when the band starts play-ing, Re -

C

mem-ber when we get there, Hon-ey, The two-steps I'm goin' to have 'em all. Goin' to

dance out both my shoes, When they play the "Jel-ly Roll Blues", To -

mor-row night at the Dark-town Strut-ters' Ball. I'll be