

Mr. Bojangles

John McEuen

I knew a man Bojangles
Always danced with worn out shoes
The silver hair, a ragged shirt
And bare ragged pants
The old soft shoe
He jumps so high
He jumps so high and
Then he lightly touches down I met him in a New Orleans cafe
He was down and out _____ I knew a man, Bojangles, and he danced for you
in worn out shoes.
With silver hair, a ragged shirt and baggy pants,
the old soft shoe.
He jumped so high, jumped so high, then he lightly touched down. I met him in a cell in New Orleans, I was
so down and out.
He looked at me to be the eyes of age,
as he spoke right out.
He talked of life, he talked of life. He laughed, clicked heels instead. Mister Bojangles
Mister Bojangles
Mister Bojangles,
dance! He danced for those at minstrel shows and county fairs
throughout the South.
He spoke with tears of fifteen years how his dog and he
traveled about.
His dog up and died, dog up and died, after twenty years he still grieved. He said, I dance now at every chance in
honky tonks
for drinks and tips.
But most of the time I spend behind these county bars.
He said, I drink a bit.
He shook his head and as he shook his head I heard someone ask, please Mister Bojangles
Mister Bojangles
Mister Bojangles,
dance!
The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band was formed early 1966 with roots in folk and country music. After four LP, of which
only the first had charted briefly, the band decided to break up. In June 1969, however, the band came back
together with the single "Mr. Bojangles" by Jerry Jeff Walker, their only top 10 hit.

Songwriters

JERRY JEFF WALKER Published by

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