



## M. Sissieretta Jones

*[Poster]: Black Patti's Troubadours: The Original Black Patti (Mme. M. Sissieretta Jones). The Greatest Signer of Her Race*

New York: The Metropolitan Print [circa 1896-1898]

**\$14,000**

Original large photolithographic poster in color. Approximately 20" x 30". Framed. Unexamined out of the frame, but appears to be very near fine. A depiction after a painting of the richly dressed African-American opera singer, Matilda Sissieretta Jones. The Portsmouth, Virginia-born Jones studied music at the Providence Academy of Music, and later at the New England Conservatory of Music. At the urging of acclaimed Spanish-born opera singer Adelina Patti (thus Jones's designation as the "Black Patti"), she toured the Caribbean to great acclaim with the Fisk Jubilee Singers in the late 1880s and early 1890s. In 1892 she sang for Benjamin Harrison at The White House, reportedly the first of her race to perform there, and subsequently sang for the next three Presidents as well, and her success was so great that she spawned a number of imitators (thus Jones became "The Original Black Patti"). Jones became the first African-American to sing at the Music Hall in New York (renamed Carnegie Hall the following year). In 1896 she formed Black Patti's Troubadours. The cabinet photograph upon which this image is based is a known image (indeed it is used on the Wikipedia page devoted to her), but despite extensive research we can find no other copy of this poster. Visually striking, and clearly rare. [\[BTC#393387\]](#)