

JAMES S. ROBINSON

WINDJAMMERS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE January 2020

Circus Bandleader James S. Robinson was born in 1839 and died in 1919. In 1874 he led the 25-person circus band of L.B. Lent's "Great New York Circus". The next year he was with the Howes & Cushing show, staying until 1880 when he then joined Cooper & Bailey's Great London Show. In 1884-1886 he was with the Barnum & London Circus, followed by the P.T. Barnum Circus and then Barnum & Bailey's Circus where the band was featured as an orchestra. In 1895 Robinson was with Frank Hall's Royal English Show, followed by the Dan Rice Circus in 1895-1896 to end his bandmaster career. At the time, it was said he had the world's largest collection of circus posters.