



# Serban Nichifor

Composer, Teacher

Roumania, Bucarest

## About the artist

[http://www.voxnovus.com/composer/Serban\\_Nichifor.htm](http://www.voxnovus.com/composer/Serban_Nichifor.htm)

Born: August 25, 1954, in Bucharest, Romania

Married to Liana Alexandra, composer: [http://www.free-scores.com/partitions\\_gratuites\\_lianaalexandra.htm#](http://www.free-scores.com/partitions_gratuites_lianaalexandra.htm#)

### Studies

National University of Music, Bucharest, Doctor in Musicology

Theology Faculty, University of Bucharest

International courses of composition at Darmstadt, Weimar, Breukelen and Munchen

USIA Stipendium (USA)

### Present Position

Professor at the National University of Music, Bucharest (Chamber Music Department);

Member of UCMR (Romania), SABAM (Belgium), ECPMN (Holland)

Vice-president of the ROMANIA-BELGIUM Association

Cellist of the Duo INTERMEDIA and co-director of the NUOVA MUSICA CONSONANTE-LIVING MUSIC FOUNDATION INC.(U.S.A) Festival, with Liana ALEXANDRA

### Selected Works

OPERA, SYMPHONIC, VOCAL-SYMPHONIC AND CONCERTANTE MUSIC:

Constellations for Orchestra (1977)

Symphony I Shadows (1980)

Cantata Sources (1977)

Cantata Gloria Heroum Holocausti (1978)

Opera Miss Christina (libretto by Mircea ELIADE, 1981... (more online)

**Qualification:** PROFESSOR DOCTOR IN COMPOSITION AND MUSICOLOGY

**Personal web:** <http://romania-on-line.net/whoswho/NichiforSerban.htm>

**Associate:** SABAM - IPI code of the artist : I-000391194-0

## About the piece



**Title:** ON THE ROAD TO CALIFORNIA

**Composer:** Nichifor, Serban

**Licence:** Copyright © Serban Nichifor

**Publisher:** Nichifor, Serban

**Instrumentation:** 2 voices chorus SA and piano

**Style:** Song

Serban Nichifor on [free-scores.com](http://www.free-scores.com)

- Contact the artist
- Write feedback comments
- Share your MP3 recording
- Web page and online audio access with QR Code :



## ON THE ROAD TO CALIFORNIA

Motto:  
"MORONI"

1.) The Mormons led by Colonel Cook,  
while passing down Saint Pedros's brook,  
Just turning o'er a little rise,  
the grass was up to our mules' eyes.

R.) On the road to California,  
on that hard and tedious journey,  
Far across the Rocky Mountains,  
crystal streams and flowing fountains.

2.) Just as our mules began to pull,  
out from the grass there jumped a bull,  
As soon as he appeared in sight,  
he raised his head all ready for a fight.

R.) .....

3.) I saw a man as I passed by,  
a bull had hooked him in the thigh,  
From that thigh the blood did pour,  
three inches deep it made a gore.

R.) .....

4.) When this bull battle it was o'er,  
and sound of musket heard no more,  
We went next day and there found slain,  
four mules, twelve bulls upon the plain.

R.) .....

(American Folklore)

Serban NICHIFOR

(1993)

Quasi una Marcia lontana, poco misterioso (♩ 92)

Coro di A. bambini

S. 2/4

A. 4/4

Pf.

ritmico

secco

Solo

1.) The Mormons led by Colonel Cook, while

Coro

A.

Pf.

simile

simile

Tutti

passing down St. Ped-ros brook, just turning o'er a little rise, the grass was up to

Coro

A.

Pf.

giocoso

Refrain

On the road to Ca-li-for-nia on that hard and tedious journey

our mule's eyes.



Coro S. Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains cry-stal streams and flow-ing foun-tains mp Mormons led by  
A. (4) A The Mormons led by

Pf. mp

Coro S. Colonel Cook, while passing down St. Ped-to's brook, just turning o'er a little rise, the  
A. Colonel Cook, while passing down St. Ped-to's brook, just turning o'er a little rise, the

Pf.

Sub. Poco Più Mosso (♩ = 98) (31)

Coro S. grass was up the our mule's eyes.  
A. grass was up the our mule's eyes.

Pf. mp 2.) just

molto f poco a poco mp

Coro S. as our mules be- gan to pull, out from the grass there jumped a bull, As soon as he ap-  
A. as our mules be- gan to pull, out from the grass there jumped a bull, As soon as he ap-

Pf. mp



41 Refrain

Coro S. *mp* On the road to Ca-li-for-nia

A. *mp* peared in sight, he raised his head all ready for a fight. [ad lib.]

Pf. *mp* *giocoso*

Coro S. on that hard land tedious journey Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains cry-stal streams and

A. simile

Pf.

51

Coro S. *mf* flow-ing foun-tains, as our mules be-gan to pull, out from the grass there jumped a bull. As

A. *mf* just as our mules be-gan to pull, out from the grass there jumped a bull, As

Pf. *mf* (Loop) *mf*

Sempre Più Mosso (♩ 102)

Coro S. soon as he ap-peared in sight, he raised his head all ready for a fight.

A. soon as he ap-peared in sight, he raised his head all ready for a fight.

Pf. *giocoso*



Coro

mf

3.) I saw a man as I passed by, a bull had hooked him in the thighs

From

Pf.

mf

61

*poco a poco animando*

*Sempre Più Mosso*  
Refrain (b. 108)

Coro S.

A.

that thigh the blood did pour, three inches deep it made a gore.

[ad lib.]

Pf.

mf

mf giocoso

81

Coro S.

A.

Ca-li-for-nia on that hard and tedious journey Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains

Simile

Pf.

81

*sempre accelerando* → *Poco Più Animato* (b. 116)

Coro S.

A.

cry-stal streams and flowing fountains, Saw a man as I passed by, a bull had hooked him

(Loco) (m.d.)

Pf.

f

f secro

81



*Sempre* **81** *poco a poco precipitando*

Coro  
S. in the thigh, From that thigh the blood did pour, three inches deep it made a gore.  
A. in the thigh, From that thigh the blood did pour, three inches deep it made a gore.

Pf. *simile*

(*sempre precipitando*) **Allegro** (♩ = 128)

Coro  
S. 4) When this bull bat-tle it was o'er, and  
A. 4) When this bull bat-tle it was o'er, and

Pf. *molto* *simile* *ff* *ritmice* *simile*

*poco a poco accelerando*

**91** *poco a poco accelerando*

Coro  
S. sound of mus-ket heard no more, We went next day and  
A. sound of mus-ket heard no more, We went next day and

Pf. *simile*

(*sempre accelerando*)

Coro  
S. there found slain, four mules, twelve bulls u- pon the plain.  
A. there found slain, four mules, twelve bulls u- pon the plain.

Pf. *ff* *ffz*



# Refrain

Allegro Vivo (♩ ≈ 150)

101

Coto

S. *ff* On the road to Ca-li-for-nia, on that hard and tedious journey Far a-cross the

A. *ff* On the road to Ca-li-for-nia, on that hard and tedious journey Far a-cross the

Pf. *ff* *giocoso*

A Tempo (♩ ≈ 150)

Deciso

Coto

S. Rock-y Mountains

A. Rock-y Mountains

Pf. *ff*

G.P.

The Mormons led by Colonel Cook!

The Mormons led by Colonel Cook!

*fff*

*secco*

Bureau  
8-V-1993  
(~2'30")

## Legenda

x = to applaud rhythmically  
(or foot beats)

⊗ = pistol shot

x = lovitura din palme sau din picior

⊗ = pocnitura de pistol cu capse  
(sau lovitura simultană din picior și din palme)

Sanborn Nielsen

Bureau, 8-V-1993

NE-The song is one of several composed and sung by troops of the Mormon Battalion which marched from Florence (Nebraska) to San Diego via El Paso, in winter of 1846-47.  
["Saints of Sage & Saddle - Folklore among the Mormons" by Austin and Alta Fife - Indiana University Press, 1956; reprinted, 1966 by Peter Smith, Gloucester (Mass.)]



# On the road to California

Serban Nichifor

Quasi una Marcia lontana (♩ = 72) (American Folklore)  
poco misterioso

S. 2 3  
4 1

A. Solo

1.) The Mormons led by Colonel Cook, while passing down Saint

Tutti

Ped-ro's brook, just turning o'er a little rise, the grass was up to our mule's eyes.

On the road to Ca-li-for-mia on that hard and tedious journey Far a-cross the

(Refrain)

A

(2) mp

Rock-y Mount-ains cry-stal streams and flow-ing foun-tains. Mor-mons led by Colonel Cook, while

mp

(4)

A

The Mor-mons led by Colonel Cook, while

passing down Saint Ped-ro's brook, just turning o'er a lit-tle rise, the grass was up to

passing down Saint Ped-ro's brook, just turning o'er a lit-tle rise, the grass was up to

Sub. Poco Più Mosso (♩ = 82)

our mule's eyes.

31 1

mp

our mule's eyes.

2.) just as our mules be-gan to pull, out



(pistol)  $\text{z} \quad \gamma \quad \otimes$

S.

A. from the grass there jumped a bull, As soon as he ap-peared in sight, he raised his head all

*mp* On the road to Ca-li-for-nia on that hard and te-dious journey

(4) (Refrain) ready for a fight. A A

Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains cry-stal streams and flow-ing foun-tains, as o-ur mules be-

Just as o-ur mules be- *mf*

gan to pull, out from the grass there jumped a bull, As soon as he ap-peared in sight, he

(5) (pistol)  $\text{z} \quad \gamma \quad \otimes$  *mf*

gan to pull, out from the grass there jumped a bull, As soon as he ap-peared in sight, he

raised his head all ready for a fight. *Sempre Più Mosso (♩ = 96)* *mf*

raised his head all ready for a fight. 1 3) I saw a man as

I passed by, a bull had hooked him in the thigh.

(6)  $\gamma \quad \otimes \quad \text{z}$  (pistol) *mf*

From that thigh the blood did pour, three



poco a poco animando --- Sempre Più Mosso (♩=106)  
(Refrain)

S. On the road to Ca-li-for-nia on that hard and  
A. inch-es deep it made a gore. A - A -

sempre animando ---  
tedious journey Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains cry-stal streams and flow-ing foun-tains,  
A - I

Poco più animato (♩=116) (pistol) 7 8 9  
f saw a man as I passed by, a bull had hooked him in the thigh, From that thigh the  
f saw a man as I passed by, a bull had hooked him in the thigh, From that thigh the

sempre precipitando  
blood did pour, three inch-es deep it made a gore, gore, gore, 4) When  
blood did pour, three inch-es deep it made a gore, gore, gore, gore, 4) When

ff Allegro (♩=128) X (palme) simile X  
this bull bat-tle it was o'er, and sound of  
ff this bull bat-tle it was o'er, and sound of

poco a poco accelerando  
X mus-Ket heard no more, We went next day and  
X mus-Ket heard no more, We went next day and

X = lovitură din picior sau din palme. - 3 -



*sempre accelerando*

S. there found slain, four mules, twelve bulls u - pon the

A. there found slain, four mules, twelve bulls u - pon the

plain. *All. Vivo (♩ 150)* On the road to Ca-li-for-mia, on that hard and te-dious journey

plain. *(1st Refrain)* On the road to Ca-li-for-mia, on that hard and te-dious journey

Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains... *G.P. (♩ 3-4)* *A Tempo (♩ 150)* The Mor-mons led by

Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains... *(7) X (pistol)* The Mor-mons led by

Co-lon-el Cook! *(7) X*

Co-lon-el Cook! *(7) X*

⊗ = poartură de pistol cu capte  
(sau lovitură simultană din picior și din palme)

*Suban Nichifor*  
8-V-1993

1.) The Mormons led by Colonel Cook,  
while passing down Saint Pedros's brook,  
Just turning o'er a little rise,  
the grass was up to our mules' eyes.

R.) On the road to California,  
on that hard and tedious journey,  
Far across the Rocky Mountains,  
crystal streams and flowing fountains.

2.) Just as our mules began to pull,  
out from the grass there jumped a bull,  
As soon as he appeared in sight,  
he raised his head all ready for a fight.

R.) .....

3.) I saw a man as I passed by,  
a bull had hooked him in the thigh,  
From that thigh the blood did pour,  
three inches deep it made a gore.

R.) .....

4.) When this bull battle it was o'er,  
and sound of musket heard no more,  
We went next day and there found slain,  
four mules, twelve bulls upon the plain.

R.) .....

NE - The song is one of several composed and sung by troops of the Mormon Battalion which marched from Florence (Nebraska) to San Diego via El Paso, in winter of 1846-47.



Filarmonica "GEORGE ENESCU"  
A TENEUL ROMAN

CONCERT AL  
"VOCES

DIRIJOR: CLAUDIU  
La pian: DAN

"AMERICA,  
- muzica traditionala

1. George Gershwin ..... Summertime
2. Scott Joplin ..... I am thinking of my pickaninny days  
Solist: VLADIMIR DEVESELU
3. Leonard Bernstein ..... Somewhere
4. William Dawson ..... Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit
5. Arrang.: Serban Nichifor ..... On the road to California
6. Leonard Bernstein ..... I feel pretty
7. Irving Berlin ..... Alexander's ragtime band

GRUP STUDIO '77 - Cond. muzicala: EDMOND DEDA  
8. Irving Berlin ..... You are my sunshine  
9. K. Rogers ..... Sentimental journey

CVARTETUL "GEMENII" format din Luminita si Sofia MOISE si  
Ovidiu si Virgil ANDRONACHE  
10. Cole Porter ..... Night and day  
solista: Anda POPP

11. George Summer ..... Feeling  
solist: Cristian ROMAN

MINISTERUL CULTURII  
Duminica, 6 iunie 1993, ora 19.00

CORULUI  
PRIMAVERAE"

NEGULESCU  
ARDELEAN

"AMERICA"  
americana -

12. Elvis Presley ..... Love me tender
13. Cole Porter ..... Night and day  
Solista: Daniela CRISTEA
14. Jerome Kern ..... Don't fance me in
15. Glenn Miller ..... Chattanooga Choo-Choo  
Cvartetul "GEMENII"
16. George Gershwin ..... Two songs
17. D. Edward ..... A friend indeed  
Solista: Mihaela BOGEANU
18. Jerome Kern ..... Goodnight America

19. Charles Ives ..... Old home day  
20. Charles Ives ..... In the alley  
21. Charles Ives ..... A son of a Gambolier  
22. Charles Ives ..... Down east  
23. Charles Ives ..... The circus band  
La vioara: Irina MURESANU

24. John Kander ..... And all that jazz  
25. Traditional american ..... America the beautiful



Despre creatia muzicala americana, despre o linie compositionala a scoili nationale americane, se poate vorbi abia la sfarsitul secolului al XIX-lea, dar mai ales in veacul nostru. Explicatia este foarte simpla si isi are originile in insasi formarea poporului Americii de astazi. Colonistii din mai toate tarile Europei, Asiei si Africii au debarcat pe pamanturile de vis - descoperite de Columb - cu toate obiceiurile lor, economice, politice, culturale si folclorice. Nu a fost simplu si usor sa se gaseasca un limbaj muzical comun.

Charles Ives (1874-1954) si, mai tarziu, George Gershwin (1898-1937), urmati de o intreaga pleiada de valorosi creatori, concep si dezvoltă simfonia americana si, respectiv, jazzul simfonic.

Desfasurarea unei baze muzicale impresionante, formata din academii si colegii, orchestre filarmonice, teatre de opera, sali pentru muzicaluri etc., a permis aparitia unui mare numar de compozitori, dotati si aplecati sarguincios asupra tuturor tehnicilor de scriitura noua in creatia muzicala a secolului al XX-lea. Dar crezul de la care compozitorii americani nu au abdicat niciodata a fost si a ramas MELODIA.

CLAUDIU NEGULESCU

Pret 40 lei

## PROGRAM

Tiparit de Asociatia Muzicala "VOCES PRIMAVERAE"