



# 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 (choral fantasy)

**Composer:** Nichifor, Serban

**Licence:** Copyright © Serban Nichifor

**Publisher:** Nichifor, Serban

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

**Style:** Children

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

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# 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)

Handwritten musical score for the first system. It includes staves for Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), and Piano (Pf.). The piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment with notes and rests, and a section marked 'ritmico' and 'secco'. The vocal parts have lyrics: "1.) The Mormons led by Colonel Cook, while".

Handwritten musical score for the second system. It includes staves for Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), and Piano (Pf.). The piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment with notes and rests, and a section marked 'simile'. The vocal parts have lyrics: "passing down St. Pedros brook, just turning o'er a little rise, the grass was up to".

Handwritten musical score for the third system, labeled 'Refrain'. It includes staves for Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), and Piano (Pf.). The piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment with notes and rests, and a section marked 'giocoso'. The vocal parts have lyrics: "On the road to Ca-li-for-nia on that hard and tedious journey our mule's eyes."

21 *mp*

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

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

Pf. *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. On the road to Ca-li-for-nia  
 A. peared in sight, he raised his head all ready for a fight.

Pf. *giocoso*

*mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

*(ad lib.)* *(m.d.)* *(m.s.)*

*mp*

Coro S. on that hardland tedious journey Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains cry-stal streams and  
 A. *simile*

Pf.

*(+)* *(+)*

51

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

Pf. *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

*(Loop)* *(m.d.)* *(m.s.)*

*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*

*f*

Coro  
 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 (No 108)

Coro  
 S. that thigh the blood did pour, three inches deep it made a gore.  
 A. [ad lib.]

Pf.

*mf* *giccoso*

(81)

Coro  
 S. Ca-li-for-nia on that hard and tedious journey Far a-cross the Rock-y Mountains  
 A. simile

Pf.

(82)

(71)

*sempre accelerando* ----- *Poco Più Animato* (No 116)

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

Pf.

*f* *secco*

(83)

(Loco) (m.d.)

S e m p r e 81 p o c o à p o c o p r e c i p i t a n d o

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. *7 # simile simile*

*(sempre precipitando)* Allegro (♩ = 128) 80

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. *7 b simile simile simile*

*(86) molo ff ritmiso simile*

p o c o a p o c o a c c e l e r a n d o

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. *7 simile*

*(86) 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. *7 sffz*

*sffz*

Refrain

Allegro Vivo (♩ ≈ 150)

(101)

Coro S. A. ff

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

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

Pf. ff *giocoso*

A Tempo (♩ ≈ 150)

Coro S. A. fff

Rock-y Mountains

Rock-y Mountains

G.P.

Deciso

The Mormons led by Colonel Cook!

The Mormons led by Colonel Cook!

Pf. fff

secco

Brevete 8-V-1913 (≈ 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)

Stephen Niechif

Brevete, 8-V-1913

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. 

A. 


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





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

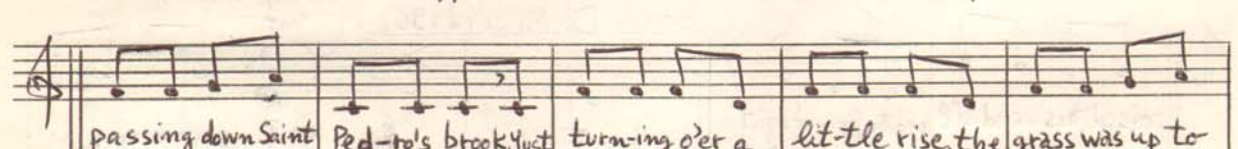
(Refrain)

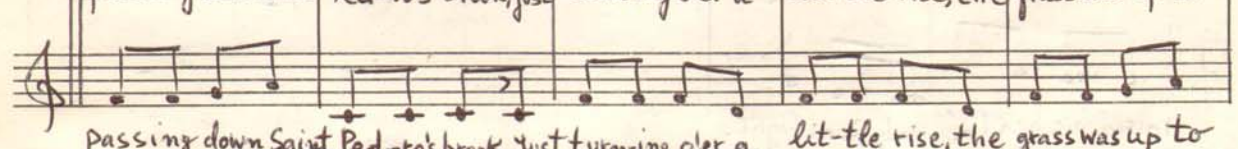




Rock-y Mount-ains cry-stal streams and flow-ing foun-tains. Mor-mons led by Col-onel Cook, while

The Mor-mons led by Col-onel 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

our mule's eyes.

our mule's eyes.

Sub. Poco Più Mosso (♩ = 82)





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

(pistol)

z 7 ⊗

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 fount-ains, 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)**

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

*mf*

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

raised his head all ready for a fight.

I passed by, a bull had hooked him in the thigh. **(6)** *mf*

*mf*

From that thigh the blood did pour, three

(pistol)

*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 Mount-ains cry-stal streams and flow-ing foun-tains,  
 71 A - I

*Poco più animato (♩=116)* (pistol)   
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,  $\frac{4}{4}$  When  
 81 blood did pour, three inch-es deep it made a gore, gore, gore,  $\frac{4}{4}$  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

X *poco a poco accelerando* X X X X  
 mus-Ket heard no more, We went next day and  
X 91 X X X  
 mus-Ket heard no more, We went next day and

X = lovitura 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. On the road to Ca-li-for-mia, on that hard and te-dious journey  
 plain. 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... The Mor-mons led by

(7) X ⊗ (pistol)  
 Co-lon-el Cook!  
 (7) X ⊗  
 Co-lon-el Cook!

⊗ = poartura de pistol cu capte  
 (sau lovitura simultana din picior si din palme)

Surban 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

MINISTERUL CULTURII  
Duminica, 6 iunie 1993, ora 19.00

CONCERT AL  
"VOCES

CORULUI  
PRIMAVERAE"

DIRIJOR: CLAUDIU  
La pian: DAN

NEGULESCU  
ARDELEAN

"AMERICA,  
- muzica traditionala

"AMERICA"  
americana -

1. George Gershwin .....
  2. Scott Joplin ..... I am thinking of my pickaninny days  
Solist: VLADIMIR DEVESELU
  3. Leonard Bernstein .....
  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 .....
  9. K. Rogers ..... You are my sunshine  
..... 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

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 scolei 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"