

# Cellists' Corner

## Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

*prepared by David Johnstone from public information*

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## Șerban Nichifor

*cellist, composer & music educator*

Șerban Nichifor (born 25th August 1954) is a Romanian composer, cellist and music educator. Nichifor studied at the National University of Music in Bucharest from 1973 to 1977 and took composition courses in 1978, 1980 and 1984 in Darmstadt, Germany.

In 1994, he received a Ph.D. in Musicology from the National University of Music (Romania) and from 1990 to 1994, also studied at the Theology Faculty of the University of Bucharest. In 2015, he was awarded a PhD summa cum laude in conducting, and wrote a thesis SHOAH - The Holocaust Reflected in My Musical Creation. He has composed many works dedicated to the victims of The Holocaust.

According to musicologist Octavian Cosma, Nichifor's eclectic style is based on neoromanticism but has included elements of jazz (such as in his Third and Fourth Symphonies) and the use of tape recordings as in his opera Domnișoara Cristina, and "Isihia" which features a solo cellist with tape. Another influence aroused in the 1990s, when he *"developed a simplified style employing themes reminiscent of Byzantine chant."*

The music of Șerban Nichifor is performed by leading musicians from all around the world. In February 2022, the Russian premiere of his work "Cries from Earth to Heaven" performed by Anastasia Vedyakova and Anastasia Bykova, took place.

He married the late Romanian musician and composer Liana Alexandra in 1978. They performed together as cellist and pianist in the Duo Intermedia from 1990 and were co-directors of the Nuova Musica Consonante - Living Music Foundation Festival.

Special Works featuring a cello soloist:

"Il nome della rosa" for violoncello and piano 4 hands (1989)

"Isihia" per Cello (1992)

"Epiphania" per Cello e Pianoforte (1993)

Symphony VII "Cello Memoirs" (2001-2003) – Cello and string Orchestra

"Isihia" for violoncello and tape (2002)

As cellist:



As composer:



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