# Mi Caballito

JOHN NIETO (ASCAP)

### **INSTRUMENTATION**

- 1 Conductor
- 8 1st Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- 1 Piano Accompaniment

Straight from the mariachi tradition of San Antonio, this original and programmatic piece will become a favorite. The form of this song is a Son Jalisciense and includes opportunities to practice easy syncopation.

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

This piece was written after playing a gig that brought back a memory from my early teens. When I was performing at the historic Market Square in downtown San Antonio, a gentleman asked if I wanted a "caballito" (little horse). Not knowing what he meant, I still said yes. He returned a few minutes later with a mariachi belt that he gave me. I've never forgotten his act of kindness and it gave me musical ideas. Some of the images that I've written also came from performing at rodeos and seeing how graceful the horses pranced and executed tricks.

### NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The form of this song is a Son Jalisciense. The rhythm at the beginning can be referenced by listening to a recording of the beginning of "El Relampago." The rhythm at rehearsal mark M. 41 can be referenced by listening to the beginning of "La Negra." There will be fast switches between arco and pizz. before M. 21 and M. 41.

#### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Belwin/Pop String Editor



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