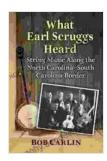
# The Captivating String Music of the North Carolina-South Carolina Border Region

Nestled amidst the rolling hills and verdant forests of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the North Carolina-South Carolina border region is home to a rich and vibrant string music tradition that has captivated audiences for generations. From the lively tunes and dance rhythms of old-time music to the haunting melodies and poetic lyrics of mountain ballads, the string music of this area is a testament to the region's deep cultural heritage and enduring musical spirit.



## What Earl Scruggs Heard: String Music Along the North Carolina-South Carolina Border by Jeffrey L. Snedeker

★★★★★ 5 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 33295 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 292 pages

Screen Reader



: Supported

### **Origins and Influences**

The string music tradition of the North Carolina-South Carolina border region has its roots in the music brought to the area by European settlers in the 18th and 19th centuries. These settlers brought with them a variety of musical traditions, including fiddle tunes, ballads, and dance music. Over

time, these musical elements blended with African and Native American influences, creating a unique and distinctive musical style that is now recognized as an important part of the region's cultural identity.

### **Musical Instruments and Techniques**

The primary instruments used in the string music of the North Carolina-South Carolina border region are the fiddle, the banjo, and the guitar. The fiddle is the most prominent instrument, and is used to play both melodies and harmonies. The banjo is typically used for rhythm and accompaniment, while the guitar is often used to provide harmony and support for the other instruments. Other instruments that may be used include the mandolin, the dulcimer, and the bass fiddle.

The string music of the region is characterized by its use of syncopated rhythms, intricate fingerpicking patterns, and haunting melodies. The fiddle is often played with a distinctive "clawhammer" technique, which creates a percussive sound that adds to the music's rhythmic drive. The banjo is often played with a three-finger picking style, which produces a complex and lively sound.

## **Historical and Cultural Significance**

The string music of the North Carolina-South Carolina border region has played an important role in the history and culture of the area. It has been used for entertainment, courtship, and social gatherings for generations. In the early 20th century, the region became a hotbed for the emerging old-time music scene, and many of the most influential old-time musicians of the era came from this area. Today, the string music tradition continues to thrive in the region, with numerous festivals, concerts, and workshops dedicated to its preservation and promotion.

#### **Notable Musicians and Performances**

- Tommy Jarrell (1901-1985): A legendary fiddler and banjo player from Surry County, North Carolina, Jarrell was known for his virtuosic playing and his deep knowledge of traditional mountain music.
- Doc Watson (1923-2012): A blind guitarist, singer, and songwriter from Deep Gap, North Carolina, Watson was one of the most influential and respected figures in American folk music.
- The Carter Family: A seminal country music group from Hiltons, Virginia, the Carter Family was known for their close-knit harmonies and their songs about love, loss, and hard times.
- Ralph Stanley (1927-2016): A bluegrass musician from Clinchco,
   Virginia, Stanley was known for his distinctive high-lonesome singing style and his mastery of the banjo.
- Del McCoury Band: A contemporary bluegrass band from Hendersonville, North Carolina, the Del McCoury Band is known for their high-energy performances and their eclectic mix of traditional and original material.

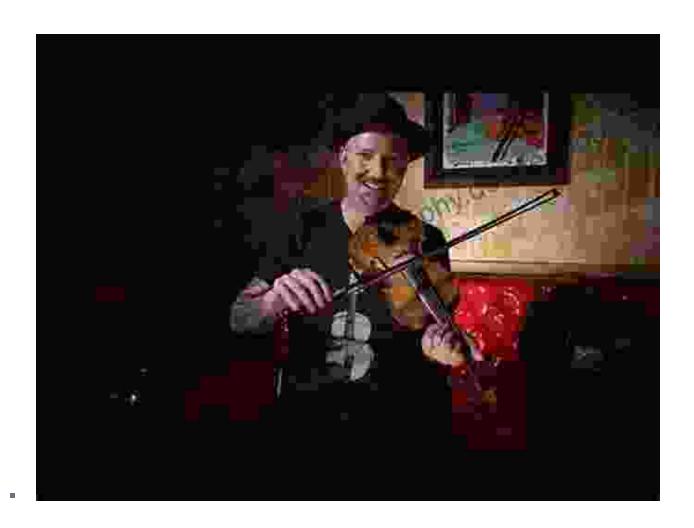
### **Modern-Day Revival and Preservation**

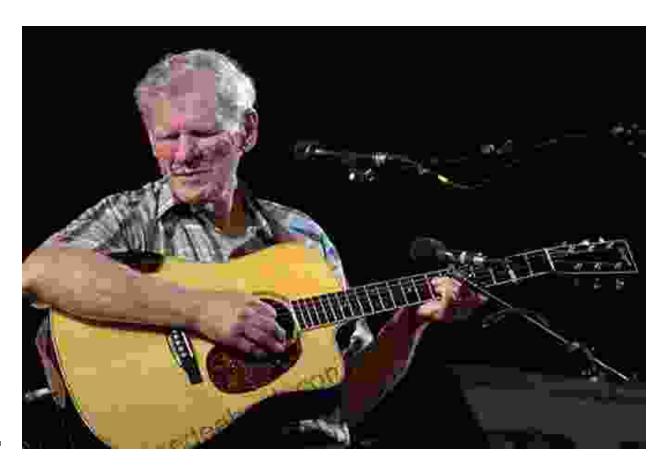
In recent years, there has been a growing interest in the string music of the North Carolina-South Carolina border region. This revival has been fueled by a number of factors, including the popularity of folk and bluegrass music, the increased availability of recordings and live performances, and the efforts of cultural organizations dedicated to preserving and promoting the region's musical heritage.

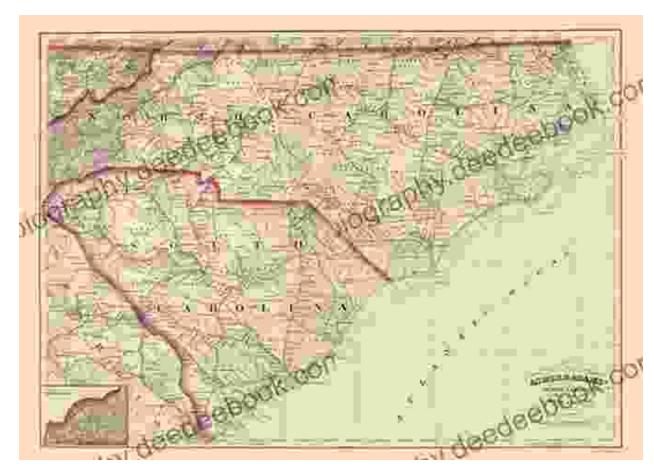
Today, the string music of the North Carolina-South Carolina border region can be heard at festivals, concerts, and dances throughout the region. There are also numerous organizations that are working to preserve and promote the tradition, including the Blue Ridge Music Center in Galax, Virginia, and the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina.

The string music of the North Carolina-South Carolina border region is a rich and vibrant musical tradition that continues to captivate audiences to this day. Its origins in the mountains and its unique blend of European, African, and Native American influences have created a musical style that is both timeless and enduring. From the lively dance tunes of old-time music to the haunting melodies of mountain ballads, the string music of this region is a testament to the cultural heritage and creative spirit of its people.

### **Image Gallery**











## **Video Gallery**



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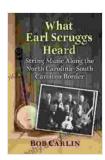
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