

Big Sciota

The musical score for "Big Sciota" is written in G Major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed letter 'A' above the first measure. The second staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The third staff begins with a boxed letter 'B' above the first measure. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, D7, C, G, D7, C, G, D7, C, G, D7, Em, G, D7, C, G, D7, C, G.

"Big Sciota", also known as "The Big Scioto" and "The Big Scioty" is an American old-time breakdown in G Major. The parts are played AABB.

It was a popular tune in the old-time revival repertoire.

The (Big) Scioto River (joined by the Little Scioto River in the North) runs south through central Ohio & Columbus following the western boundary of the Appalachians, before emptying into the Ohio River.

The tune comes from the family of fiddler and banjo player Burl Hammons of West Virginia. Several versions were circulated in the 1970's originating from Burl Hammons who was a very creative player. The Red Clay Ramblers played a version that they learned from a field recording of Burl Hammons. Other versions were based on one collected by Alan Jabbour for the Library of Congress.

The banjo tablature given here is by John Letscher, based on Burl Hammons' playing and learned from Ron Mullinnix at an Augusta Heritage Festival.

It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021), Johnson's **Kitchen Musician No. 2: Old-Timey Fiddle Tunes** (1982) (revised 1988, 2003) and Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes vol. 1** (1994).

It was recorded The Gypsy Gyppo String Band on **The Gypsy Gyppo String Band** (1977), The Renegades on **The Renegades** (1993), Red Clay Ramblers on **Stolen Love** (1975), Ship in the Clouds on **Old Time Instrumental Music** (1978), Leo Kretzner & Jay Leibovitz on **Pigtown Fling** (1979), Reed Island Ramblers on **Wolves in the Wood** (1997), Gerry Milnes (et al) on **Gandydancer** (2001), Burl Hammonds on **Shaking Down the Acorns** (1973), Bob Carlin on **Fiddle Tunes for the Clawhammer Banjo** (1979), Adam Hurt on **Insight** (2006), Bruce Molsky on **Southern Old-Time Fiddle Tour** (1997), The Hammons Family on **The Hammons Family** (1998), the Henrie Brothers on **Wheatland Festival** (1978) and others.