

## ESCOITEN SEÑORES:

### A typical “panxoliña”. (a carol)

**ORIGIN:** they are ancient song which came up at the same time as the Christian culture, as they celebrate the birth of Christ.

**CLASIFICACION:** Religious.

**ACCOMPANIMENT:** musical accompaniment

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** None.

**SUNG BY:** men and women

**DESCRIPTION:** there are several kinds:

*Panxolas or panxoliñas:* they include those carols whose aim is to visit the Child Jesus, and the lullabies.

*Nadais:* similar to the chants of the Kings, but they are sung on Christmas Day.

*Chants of New Year's Day:* sung on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. They welcome the new year.

*Aguinaldos:* Children used to form groups at Christmas to call the nearby houses singing “panxoliñas” with which they expected a present from the owners. It could be some money or a delicacy typical from these feasts. After the present, the children thanked them with songs. The houses which didn't give a gift got some singing as well, but in this case, the lyrics showed the dissatisfaction of the annoyed children.

*Cantos de Reis:* they are sung on 5th January all the day long. They were based on biblical texts, putting special emphasis on the Adoration of the Magi. They are usually performed in teams, with the accompaniment of very simple instruments. The performance consists of a couple singing a stanza and another couple answering it. In some places in Galicia it is accompanied by bright or flamboyant clothes, similar to those worn on Carnival, but not covering the face.

The chant we are analyzing could be classified on this latter type. It describes the route of the Three Magi, their meeting with Herod and the arrival to Bethlehem.