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### **JON BISHOP**

Jon is one of those great all-rounders who can turn his hand to almost any style. No 'Jack of all trades and master of none', he nails every one with ease!



### PHIL CAPONE

Phil is a great guitarist who specialises in blues and jazz. He teaches at ICMP in London, writes for GT and Total Guitar and has published 10 top tuition books.



### CHARLIE GRIFFITHS

Guitar Institute tutor Charlie first came to fame in Total Guitar's Challenge Charlie series. He's also one of the UK's top rock, metal and fusion guitarists.



### PHIL HILBORNE

The UK's original magazine guitar tutor, Phil's something of a legend. A great player, he's currently touring Europe with the Champions Of Rock show.



### PAT HEATH

BIMM Brighton lecturer, ESP product demonstrator and all-round busy musician, Pat brings you six cool licks each month in 30-Minute Lickbag.



### HARRISON MARSH

Harrison has taught guitar for over seven years. With an ALCM diploma he teaches all levels and ages via Skype, as well as face to face in Somerset, UK.



### RONAN MCCULLAGH

Ronan works with major labels and TV alongside playing live and teaching at BIMM in London. He also holds clinics and masterclasses across the UK.



### RRIDGET MERMIKIDES

Guildhall and Royal Academy trained, Bridget is a Royal College of Music, examiner, a respected classical player and award-winning blues guitarist.



### STUART RYAN

Head of Guitar at BIMM Bristol, Stu is an acoustic guitar virtuoso who performs throughout the UK. His latest book/CD The Tradition is available now.



### JUSTIN SANDERCOE

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### IAIN SCOTT

For over 25 years lain has taught in the UK's top schools and academies, as well as a stint at GIT in LA. He can also boast playing with the legend Brian Wilson!



### JOHN WHEATCROFT

A phenomenal guitarist, John is a master at all styles but a legend in Gypsy Jazz. His new album Ensemble Futur is out now on iTunes and Amazon.

### WELCOME

SOMETIMES WE LISTEN to music and make big presumptions. Take jazz. One presumption is that jazz is always complex, full of tricky chords and fistfuls of scales.

Well, I was listening to the radio some years back when a jazz standard came on, announced as featuring guitarist Kenny Burrell. I knew of Kenny, of course, and was familiar with the tune, which was indeed full of colourful changes. But when I homed in on his soloing I realised that, far from using unpronouncable scales and arpeggios outlining every chord, he was mainly employing the Minor Pentatonic with added \$5, or 'Blues' scale. What I heard Kenny doing, was navigating the changes using notes from the various chords, common with the most potent ones from his R- \3-4- \5-5- \7 palette. Of course, he clearly has the knowledge and facility to dig way deeper into the harmony, but on this occasion he chose a simpler but no less

into the harmony, but on this occasion he chose a simpler but no less musical course. I later noticed Robben Ford and Larry Carlton, often did the same.

Now add where and how these players place the notes around the beat and within the bar (see Milton's fantastic article last month) and suddenly you have almost limitless permutations that allow each guitarist to be distinctly 'them' - guitar choice, amp tones, vibrato and other techniques notwithstanding.

Of course, the Blues scale is way more than something with which to play 'easy' jazz. As Phil Capone points out in this month's cover feature, you'll find it in blues (of course), as well as rock - think of riffs like Sunshine Of Your Love, Heartbreaker, Enter Sandman, Walk This Way, etc.

> Phil has a great way of explaining musical concepts, and he shows how these six simple notes can be used to powerful effect. Do go through it, and hopefully you'll find new ways to

use and appreciate this underestimated scale. See you next time.



Neville Marten, Editor neville.marten@futurenet.com

### **DON'T MISS OUR AMAZING DIGITAL EDITION**

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All the mag's main lessons have the audio built in with a moving cursor that shows you exactly where you are in the music. Simply tap the 'play button and you're off - you can fastforward or scroll back at will.



### Play the videos

Certain articles have accompanying videos full of useful insight and additional information. Once again, tap the play buttons to enjoy video masterclasses on your iPad (recommended) or smartphone.

**PLUS!** Get a FREE iPad/iPhone sample of GT. For full details and how to receive our digital edition regularly, go to www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk/GTQsubs

\* PLEASE NOTE: Only the Apple version contains interactive tab and audio. Zinio and others do not.



**DISC AUDIO (PRINT VERSION ONLY)** Sometimes the GT CD features some of the backing tracks as mp3 files due to space. These will be found in a folder on the CD-ROM section of the disc, accessible only via a computer, and will not work in a regular CD player.



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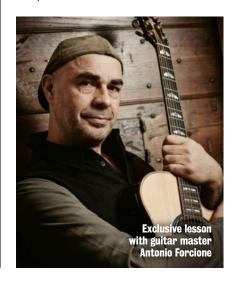
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### TalkBack

### **Post** Guitar Techniques, Future Publishing, Ivo Peters Road, Bath, BA23QS. **Email** neville.marten@futurenet.com using the header 'Talkback'.



### IF SIX WERE TWELVE

How about an issue dedicated to the 12-string guitar - both acoustic and electric?

Ross DeAeth

Well that's what I call a short but sweet letter, Ross. But it does get sharply to the point! It would be very easy to reply that the fingering for six and 12-string guitars is exactly the same, so what would be the point? But anyone who's played a 12 for any length of time will know that certain shapes and fingerings take on a completely different sound when compared to a six. Gary Moore showed me what George Harrison showed him he'd played on the Hard Day's Night track. On the little fade-out Fadd9 arpeggio figure on the top strings that goes G-C-A-C, F-C-A-C it sounds like the F that starts the second part of the lick is played 1st fret, first string. But George told Gary this note was actually the octave of the fourth string, at the 3rd fret. This is just one of many quirks that I'm sure we could find that really did separate the six and 12 techniques. And when you think of the players that have made areat use of 12s, both electric and acoustic – Harrison, Roger McGuinn, Leo Kottke, Gordon Giltrap, Pete Townshend, Paul Weller, Leadbelly, Tom Petty, Peter Buck, even Hendrix-there'd be a wealth of stuff to dig up, I'm sure. However, dedicating an entire issue to 12-strings is unlikely, but we know many readers have one

pugged away in a closet, so an article might be a nice reason to bring it out and stick a new set of strings on.

### **RAVE REVIEWS**

I don't know who's doing your record reviews, but they deserve a raise. That column is quickly becoming one of my favourite, and most valuable, sections of the whole magazine. I've been turned on to so much great music and so many great musicians I might not have otherwise checked out if not for the very accurate, well written, and spot on descriptions of the various artists and recordings they feature. Most recent example: the five-star review of the latest Sonny Landreth live record (GT 273), was absolutely on the money, and I can't thank whoever wrote that enough for motivating me to buy it.

### Mike Cosola

Thanks, Mike. These days it tends to be mainly music editor Jason Sidwell, plus some from David Mead and occasionally a few from me. Jason's are the most musically in-depth (as you'd expect) and it was he who reviewed and raved about Sonny's amazing new release.

### **GARY MOORE**

Many thanks for your fantastic feature on one of my favourite and still greatly missed guitarists,

Gary Moore. I was fortunate enough to see Gary play a number of times and I remember how certain sections of the audience would time the sustained note in Parisienne Walkways. I was never sure if Gary was playing along, or if he thought it was all a bit daft. Richard Barrett's six solos really got to the heart of Gary's style. I was hoping they would be actual Gary solos but in fact the way GT did it was far more educational in the long run - and is bound to assist me and others in cracking

those tracks that still evade these fretting fingers. In the absence of 'actual' transcriptions this kind of idea goes a long way towards satiating my soloing needs, so I'm wondering if you have any others in the pipeline?

### Marcus Davey

Thanks, Marcus. We thought Richard did a fabulous job, too. And yes, we also feel that in certain respects an in-depth style study is as good or better than merely tabbing out a song or solo. What we like to do at GT is give you the tools for the job, rather than do the job for you – hence all the great features we run month after month, including this one. You are so right that learning someone's approach can help you to unlock their style and



break it down yourself, and that such an approach will be more rewarding and musically beneficial to your playing in the long term.

### **ART OF TIMING**

I've just put the latest issue (GT275) down after perusing

Milton Mermikides' brilliant article on timing. Obviously I'd heard about playing before, on or behind the beat, but never seen this and so much more explained in such depth and detail. I never realised that you could

dissect timing or groove to such an extent and highlight what's actually going on. I've only just got the issue so have read it but not tried Milton's examples. I do have a tendency (which I hate and which GT is always talking about) to rush things, so I'm hoping that, having digested what Dr Mermikides says, I'll be more able to tame the 'greyhound out of the trap' thing that besets everything I do.

### Will Baron

Timing is one of those things that many musicians struggle with. I sometimes hear myself rushing, and absolutely deplore it. Playing ahead of the beat sounds nervy, unprofessional and unconfident, and I believe audiences can subliminally hear it and that nerviness rubs off. I remember Guthrie saying that he likes to hear playing that's as far behind the beat as possible, but before it sounds 'wrong'. Nerves, tension, or not fully knowing a piece can all contribute to that tendency for quitarists (especially) to rush. As a breed we are noted for it. I even heard a story of a well-known bassist in a top London show, writing on a certain tricky section in his music chart for any dep bassist to read. 'Watch out for rushing quitarists'. Milton's was such an in-depth piece and focused on way more than just rushing or laying back on the beat, that it was tantamount to being an encyclopaedia on timing, feel and groove, and something perhaps we should all keep close by for reference.

LFI/PHOTOSHO



# TREAT PLAYING LIKE IT'S A DISTRACTION FROM YOUR DAY JOB.

D'Addario



### FOOD FOR thought



Every month, **Justin Sandercoe** of justinguitar.com lends GT his insight as one of the world's most successful guitar teachers. This month: Altered tuning fun - part 1.

've loved messing about with guitar tunings since I first heard someone play Brown Sugar (The Rolling Stones) with the correct tuning and being floored by how much better it sounded than my hack standard tuning version. Since then I've messed about with them a lot and I'm always surprised at so many people being afraid of changing the tuning of the guitar, or thinking it's really hard. It can be real hard if you make it so, but it's such a fun thing to explore and can be a lot easier than most people think, so I hoped you might like to come on a little journey with me.

A couple of things before we get going: don't try altered tuning on a guitar with a floating vibrato. It's a massive headache. Secondly, if you retune a lot, or have old (or rubbish) strings, you might break

Below: Some new Drop D shapes for three familiar chords

G

one. But it's not the end of the world, and if they were old you probably should have changed them anyway. Also, if you tune a lot of strings up or down and dramatically change the string tension, it's possible you might bend the neck and need to adjust your truss rod. But in the 30 years I've been retuning it's never been a major issue and only worth doing if you plan on leaving a guitar in a particular tuning.

### Drop D

The easiest start to altered tunings is dropping the thickest string down a tone to the note D. You can use the open D string (fourth string) as a reference and slowly tune down the sixth string until they sound the same note, but an octave apart. This is called drop D tuning and means that you can now play all the strings with your open D chord and it sounds fat! It's quite

F#5



a simple tuning and  $\ensuremath{\textit{only affected}}$ one string. That's important, for a few reasons: first, any chord you want to play that *doesn't* use the thickest string remains the same. And, secondly, if there is a note on the thickest string then you just need to move that note up a tone (two frets). So in Drop D all the usual chords that just use the first to fifth strings (like D, C, Am, etc) are all the same. If you want to play a G (or F) you need to figure out how to move the sixth string note up while playing the rest. There's no wrong answer, but lots of right answers. Here's two... and the super simple powerchord! G (frets low to high:  $5 \times 0003$ ) F (frets low to high: 3 x 3 2 1 x) F#5 (frets low to high: 2 2 2 x x x) If you want to solo in drop D it's no problem, nothing changes, just avoid the sixth string! Go have some fun, then come back.

### Double drop D

Now let's tune the first string (thinnest string) down a tone (to D) as well. Now you're in double drop D, a very common folk and blues tuning. The first thing you should try is playing all your usual chords in the new tuning and listen. There are some super tasty chords living here and you don't need to do a thing. There is also

some magic, so go and find it. If you want to play other chords you need to just move the note on the first string up a tone. It's not that hard and it's actually quite funbut make sure you experiment and listen because it's not always about 'knowing' what you're doing. At this stage we're just making some cool sounds and enjoying it.

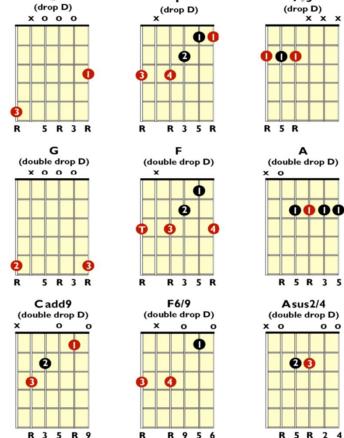
I'm sure you can figure out most chords on your own but here's a few ways you'd play some common open chords in double drop D and a few super nice shapes to explore. You'll find some problems (like Open C shape) but look for magic where you can't find an easy answer (like playing Cadd9 instead). G (frets low to high: 5 x 0 0 0 5) F (frets low to high: 3 x 3 2 1 3) A (frets low to high: x 0 2 2 2 2) Cadd9 (frets low to high: x 3 2 0 1 0) F6/9 (frets low to high: 3 x 3 0 1 0) Asus2/4 (frets low to high: x 0 2 2 0 0)

It's a lot of fun exploring chords, but soloing still shouldn't be a problem – either stay off the outside strings, or remember that notes you are used to playing on the outside strings are now located two frets higher. Playing a Blues in double drop D is quite fun and will force you out of playing the tired old vocabulary that falls under your fingers easily, and maybe take you to some fun places.

If you fancy checking out how some of the greats use double drop D, you might like to learn Song For George by Eric Johnson, Harvest Moon or Natural Beauty by Neil Young. For drop D, great examples include Queen's Fat Bottomed Girls, Killing In The Name by Rage Against The Machine, or Monkey Wrench by the Foo Fighters!

Next instalment we'll get into dropping the fifth string down to a G note and finding ourselves in open G tuning, which is another fascinating one to explore. Until then, grab your peg, give it a twist and enjoy yourself!

Get more info and links to related lessons on all Justin's GT articles at www.justinguitar.com/gtmag



### Intro

### SESSION shenanigans

The studio guitarist's guide to happiness and personal fulfilment, as related to us by session legend **Mitch Dalton**. This month: Barcelona 4 Guitars.

arcelona 4 Guitars? No. That's not a La Liga result with the away team's score omitted to spare the anguish of the visiting support. It's just that, occasionally the endless conveyor belt of topclass studio dates, the royalty stream that cascades over me like a one-armed bandit with epilepsy, the Moët, the girls... eventually it palls. Honest. A break beckons.

And so it came to pass that, with the aid of a diary, a calculator and a couple of Neurofen, I squeezed a few days respite from the daily grind and fled to Catalonia's capital.

After making allowance for the unmitigated Hell of Luton Airport and the temporary loss of my guitar at Barcelona Terminal 1, I arrived at Casa Posho to be treated like minor royalty. And there it was, on page uno of the Internet guide, a concert at The Palau de la Musica Catalana that very evening featuring the eponymous quartet.

I abluted, beered and tapas-ed, and found myself at the magnificent concert hall in anticipation of my nine o'clock rendezvous with Spanish shredding. Two elegantly attired persons of each gender duly appeared, 10 fashionable minutes late, and eased themselves into the programme by warming up with a four part re-orchestration of



Carmen, for Pedro's sake!

These guys are virtuosi, each demonstrating their own subtly individual approach, always in the service of the greater musical good. They then proceeded to take Bach's Brandenburg Concerto for a walk, gave Tchaikovsky's Waltz Of The Flowers a serious seeing-to, and performed invasive surgery on Albeniz, Boccherini, Verdi and others. There was a spotlit solo for all four protagonists, each dazzling

If mere musical genius were not sufficient, at various points in the evening the recital was interrupted

by everyone's favourite oaf of a roadie, a sneering incompetent who proceeded to misplace manuscript, clatter music stands and apparently drop instruments offstage, all the while showing contempt for quartet and audience alike. Then there was the simulated ego-fuelled attempt by band members to outdo each other. Six and then eight foot lutes were produced, followed by some Hendrix inspired Stratting out, then a parodic burst of operatic arias, 'singing waiter' style, eventually reaching a conclusion as one of the young ladies fired both musical barrels with a deafening rendition of The Toccata and Fugue on organ.

There followed a meticulously drilled sequence in which one group member appeared to use the remaining trio as a human iTunes library, employing his phone to change music, fast forward and back, pause, stop and repeat. The spoof ended with the inevitable phone glitch in which the band were reduced to repeating a musical fragment ad nauseam. The recital ended with a standing ovation and an encore of Ravel's Bolero.

Our fearless fretters began the arrangement as a duo, one guitar simulating the (in)famous snare drum groove. This was not deemed to be sufficiently entertaining for sophisticated concert-goers and the two remaining members quickly entered the fray, each pair playing one of the two guitars. It merely remained for the quartet to reach the finale on one instrument only, like a multi-octave mad octopus.

Remarkable. Stunning. Unique. I loved it. Let's hope tonight's jazz quartet at the hotel comes close!

Were there but one string fewer on my chosen instrument, I could justifiably describe this vacation as a bassman's holiday. But there isn't. So I can't. Pity though...

For more on our hero Mitch Dalton and his Studio Kings please go to: www.mitchdalton.co.uk

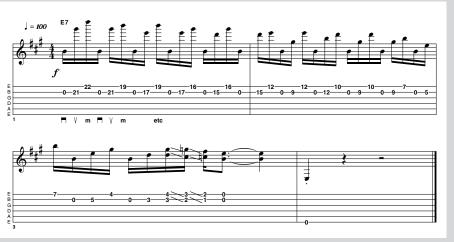
in tone and technique. And then there was the comedy!

### PHIL HILBORNE'S ONE-MINUTE LICK

### Country Open String Arpeggio Lick

THE USE OF open strings abounds in all styles with virtually endless ideas. This month it is the open second string - the 5th of the accompanying E7 chord. The lick uses only the first and second strings and features notes mostly drawn from

E7 - E-G#-B-D. The challenge is in the frequent position changes, how the lick uses the open B combined with fretted notes in a '3 against 4' rhythm, and the use of hybrid picking - you can use alternate picking if you like, but it's 'snappier' with hybrid. After playing it try to come up with other ideas of your own using different rhythms and in other keys remember you need at least one open string to be a chord tone so you can use it as a pedal note between regular fretted notes.



### INSTRUMENTAL inquisition!

Instrumentals have supplied some of music's most evocative moments. We asked some top guitarists for their take on this iconic movement. This month: slide guitarist extraordinaire **Sonny Landreth**.

### GT: What is it about instrumentals that appeals to you?

SL: There is an abstract quality that I have always been drawn to wherein the listener is free to conjure up imagery as inspired by the emotions they experience from the music. Lyrics, though I love them dearly, literally spell out one story whereas a good instrumental can inspire imagery of many different stories and emotions in different listeners.

### GT: What can an instrumental provide a listener that a vocal can't?

SL: There is something intangible and quite profound that resonates in a more individual and personnel way. Maybe people just attach a strong emotion to a melody or a series of chord changes that reminds them of something that is or was important to them.

### GT: Any tendencies that you embrace or avoid – rhythms, harmony, playing approach, tones?

SL: Well, melody is paramount and it needs to come from an honest place and have integrity. That's what makes a great instrumental so memorable. But of course, harmony and rhythm are super important too. Any approach to all of the above is valid so long as the end result is creative and has an element of surprise. One thing I try *not* to do is to repeat a theme too often. I don't want to run it into the ground.

### GT: Is a typical song structure – verse, chorus, middle eight - useful?

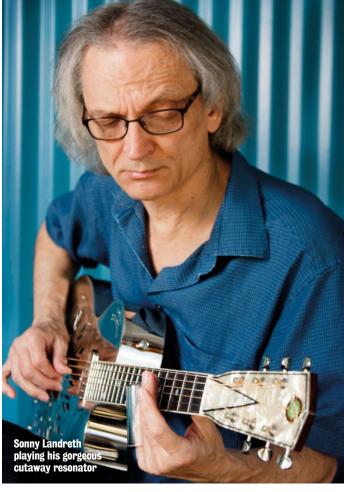
SL: That formula is undoubtedly tried and true and I do think it's important to have both a good understanding of it and to be competent using it. I just think that it isn't necessarily always the way to go. I like the unexpected.

### GT: How useful is studying a vocalist's approach?

SL: There is potentially tremendous benefit to that. Learning to create a vocal-like quality with your instrument is a major step in achieving a sound that is your own.

### GT: How do you start writing one?

SL: I honestly can't explain it as music has always seemed to just come to me. I would suggest starting



with a feeling about something that truly moves you and try to articulate that with a particular sound or tone and see where that takes you. Try to not get distracted by preconceived notions and just let it fly.

### GT: What do you aim for when your performance is centre stage?

SL: I strive to find my way to the top of my potential in that very moment. Otherwise it's the same as a vocal performance in that I want the music to touch people and, for at least a while, forget about their troubles.

### GT: Many vocal songs feature a solo that starts low and slow and finishes high and fast. Is this structure useful for instrumental writing?

SL: Yes, but I would say that building a solo is more about a dynamic shift in intensity and that doesn't necessarily have to include playing fast at the end of it. One big note that truly says something, is worth more than a flurry of them that doesn't really say anything or go anywhere.

### GT: What type of guitar tone do you prefer for instrumentals?

SL: I like a fatter tone in general but I'm always open to whatever sounds I think best serve the song. Like different colours on a palette to make a painting.

### GT: Favourite keys or tempos?

SL: I like to relate keys to individual tunings like E and A for more

66 ONE BIG NOTE THAT SAYS SOMETHING IS WORTH MORE THAN A FLURRY OF THEM THAT DOESN'T GO ANYWHERE 57 tension and harmonics and I like the looser, slack key tunings like G and D for bluesier pieces. Tempos? I'm not partial to any particular one but I do like practising with a click or metronome. It's a good discipline for developing a keen sense of them all.

### GT: Do you find Minor or Major keys easier to write in?

SL: I'm not sure about easier but I have always gravitated towards the Minor keys. I love the moody vibe, it feels deeper, somehow.

### GT: Favourite modes?

SL: There is something mysterious about Lydian that I never tire of.

### GT: Modulations into new keys?

SL: Maybe it's because of all those John Philip Sousa marches that I played on trumpet in my high school marching band, but I'm not a huge fan of modulating. It's just been done so much for so long by so many that I usually prefer not to.

### GT: Do you view the band differently than you would on a vocal song?

SL: No, because it's not so different from the solo section of a song with lyrics. Still needs to be played with passion and with conviction.

### GT: What are your views on harmonising melodies?

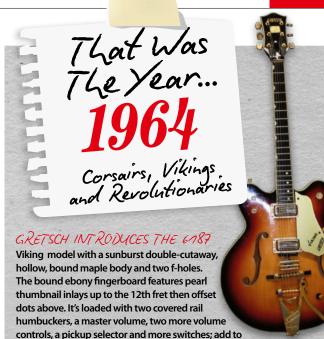
SL: It sure is potent when it expands the scope of a song like the Allman Brothers did, but not everyone has that kind of mojo. With us mortals, it can seem methodical and too thought out. But when it's tasteful and soulful, it's a grand thing.

### GT: What three guitar instrumentals have inspired you?

SL: I'll go with some that started me on my path when I was barely a teenager. The Ventures' version of Walk Don't Run pushed me into the discovery of barre chords in standard tuning; Chet Atkins' version of JD Loudermilk's Windy And Warm for learning how to fingerpick; and Santo & Johnny's Sleepwalk for its lyrical melancholy that was early slide-speak to me from a steel guitar in chordal tuning.

The amazing Sonny Landreth 'Live In Lafayette' is available now. More info at: www.sonnylandreth.com

### Intro





### INTRODUCING THE BEATLES IS THE

that a string mute, a roller bridge assembly, a Bigsby vibrato tailpiece

and a leatherette back pad and there's not much wood to see!

first Beatles album released in the USA and the Fab Four get their first US chart topper with I Want To Hold Your Hand. It stays in the number one position for seven weeks and the group lands at JFK airport for its first American tour. The UK flies over half a ton of Beatles wigs to support the tour!

### FORD'S CONSUL CORSAIR IS

now available to purchase. A mid-sized car, saloon or estate along the lines of the 61/62 Ford Thunderbird. There is also a convertible version built by Crayford.



### AFTER PROTOTYPES, GUILD FINALLY LAUNCHES

its George Barnes Acousti-Lectric jazz-bodied guitar with a carved spruce top and carved curly maple body; the rock maple neck has a bound ebony fingerboard and block pearl inlays. Its most unusual feature is the longitudinal brace bar inside the body on to which the twin humbucking pickups are mounted. The top has two corresponding apertures allowing the pickups to pass through. As the controls are mounted on the scratchplate with only the pickup selector on the body, the natural acoustic resonance of the instrument remains. It comes in blonde or sunburst.

### PLANS FOR THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE IN

New York City are announced; boxer Cassius Clay converts to Islam and changes his name to Muhammad Ali and beats Sonny Liston to become the new heavyweight champion of the world. The Rolling Stones begin their first American tour as the headline act with The Ronettes as a support. A sprinkling of births includes Duff McKagan (Guns N' Roses), Tommy Scott (Space), Neneh Cherry, Andy Bell (Erasure), Diana Krall and Wynonna Judd.

### IN JAPAN KAWAI RELEASES ITS REVOLUTIONARY

Amp In Guitar solidbody model! More traditionally it also introduces the ST3W guitar, a three-pickup design with separate rocker switches for each pickup. These and the rotary controls are all mounted on a large scratchplate and there's a vibrato unit and a crude bridge. The rosewood 'board has abalone coin-slot inlays and the headstock precedes the enlarged Strat shape used by Fender in the 70s.



### JAM TRACKS tips

Use these tips to navigate our bonus backing tracks

### Groove Blues (Am)

Our first jam track is a fun-to-play groove-based blues in A Minor. You can use A Minor Pentatonic (A-C-D-E-G) as well as A Natural Minor scale (A-B-C-D-E-F-G). I also recommend playing around with the 7th arpeggios: Am7 (A-C-E-G), Dm7 (D-F-A-C) and Em7 (E-G-B-D).

### B Minor Blues Jam

Here's a B Minor blues progression, with the chords Bm (Im), Em (IVm), G (JVI) and F# (V). I suggest starting with B Minor Pentatonic (B-D-E-F#-A) as well as B Natural Minor (B-C#-D-E-F#-G-A). For the F# chords you can also use B Harmonic Minor (B-C#-D-E-F#-G-A#), emphasising the A#, which leads back to the Bm chord.

### 3 Ambient Jam (D)

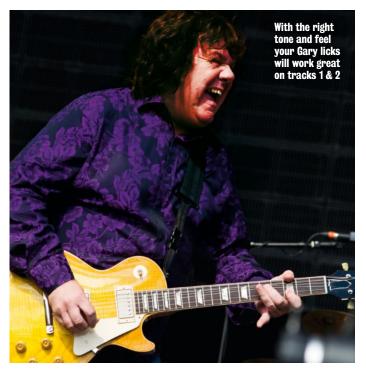
This ambient style jam track works perfectly with D Mixolydian mode (D-E-F#-G-A-B-C). You can experiment with your wackiest ambient sounds and delays on this. I also recommend exploring the Pentatonic scales inherent in this one, namely E Minor Pentatonic (E-G-A-B-D), A Minor Pentatonic (A-C-D-E-G) and B Minor Pentatonic (B-D-E-F#-A).



### 4 Minor II-V-I Jazz Jam (Am)

Here's a great jazz track in A Minor. The chords are Bm7,5 (II), E7 (V) and Am7 (I). On the track you will hear extensions of these chords - as is common in jazz of course. Try A Natural Minor (A-B-C-D-E-F-G) on the Bm7,5 and Am7 chords and the A Harmonic Minor (A-B-C-D-E-F-G#) on the E7 chords. Basic arpeggios: Bm7,5 (B-D-F-A), E7 (E-G#-B-D) and Am7 (A-C-E-G). Have fun!

Jam tracks by Jacob Quistgaard.
For free scale maps and
hundreds more tracks, visit
www.quistorama.com. You can
also subscribe to www.youtube.
com/QuistTV to get all the latest
tracks and licks. Or find Quist and
his jam tracks on Twitter,
Instagram and Facebook.



### GT User Guide

You can get more from GT by understanding our easy-to-follow musical terms and signs...



Advanced

Moderate

Easy

Easy-Moderate

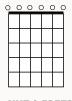
Moderate-Advanced

### RELATING TAB TO YOUR FRETBOARD



### HAND LABELLING

Here are the abbreviations used for each finger: Fretting hand: 1, 2, 3, 4, (T) Picking hand: p (thumb), i (first finger), m (second), a (third), c (fourth).



### **NUT & FRETBOARD**

The fretbox diagram above represents the fretboard exactly, as seen in the accompanying photo. This is for ease of visualising a fretboard scale or chord shape quickly.

**CHORD EXAMPLE (WITH CAPO)** 

The blue line represents a capo – for this A chord, place it

at fret 2. Capos change the fret number ordering - here,

the original fret 5 now becomes fret 3, fret 7 now fret 5, etc.

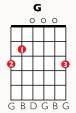


### **READ MUSIC**

Each transcription is broken down into two parts...



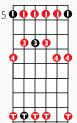
MUSICAL STAVE The five horizontal lines for music notation show note pitches and rhythms and are divided by bar lines.



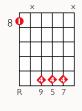


### **CHORD EXAMPLE**

The diagram represents the G chord in the photo. The 'O' symbol is an open string, and a circled number is a fretting finger. Intervals are shown below.







### **TAPPING & HARMONICS**

The left box shows an A minor Pentatonic scale with added tapped notes signified by 'T's. Above shows a Cmaj9 (no 3rd) with harmonics at the 12th fret.



TABBING Under the musical stave. Tab is an aid to show you where to put your fingers on the fretboard. The six horizontal lines represent the six strings on a guitar - the numbers on the strings are fret numbers. The two stave and tab examples show 4 notes and 4 chords; C (C major), Em (E minor), D7 (D dominant 7) and Am7 (A minor 7).

A major scale



### **SCALE EXAMPLE**

The diagram shows the fret-hand fingering for the A major scale (root notes in black). The photo shows part of the scale being played on the fourth string with first, third and fourth fingers.

### GUITARTECHNIQUES: HOW THEY APPEAR IN WRITTEN MUSIC...

### **PICKING VARIATIONS AND ALTERNATIVES**

### Up and down picking



■ The first note is to be downpicked and the last note is to be up-picked.

### Tremolo picking



Each of the four notes are to be alternate picked (down- & up-picked) very rapidly and continuously.



Palm mute by resting the edge of picking-hand's palm on the strings near the bridge.



■ Drag the pick across the strings shown with a single sweep. Often used to augment a rake's last note.



Play the notes of the chord by strumming across the relevant strings in the direction of the arrow head

### **FRETTING HAND**

### Hammer-on & Pull-off



■ Pick 1st note and hammer on with fretting hand for 2nd note. Then pick 3rd note and pull off for 4th note.

### **Note Trills**



Rapidly alternate between the two notes indicated in brackets with hammer-ons and pull-offs.

### Slides (Glissando)



■ Pick 1st note and slide to the 2nd note. The last two notes show a slide with the last note being re-picked.

### **Left Hand Tapping**



■ Sound the notes marked with a square by hammering on/tapping with the frettinghand fingers.

### Fret-Hand Muting



X markings represent notes muted by the fretting hand when struck by the picking hand.

### **BENDING AND VIBRATO**

### Bendup/down



■ Fret the start note (here, the 5th fret) and bend up to the pitch of the bracketed note, before releasing.

### Re-pick bend



■ Bend up to the pitch shown in the brackets, then re-pick the note while holding the bent note at the new pitch.

### Pre bend



■ Bend up from the 5th fret to the pitch of the 7th fret note, then pick it and release to 5th fret note.

### **Quarter-tone bend**



■ Pick the note and then bend up a quarter tone (a very small amount). Sometimes referred to as a blues curl.

### Vibrato



■ The fretting hand vibrates the note by small bend ups and releases. The last example uses the vibrato bar.

### **HARMONICS**

### Natural harmonics



■ Pick the note while lightly touching the string directly over the fret indicated. A harmonic results.

### **Artificial harmonics**



■ Fret the note as shown, then lightly place the index finger over 'x' fret (AH 'x') and pick (with a pick, p or a).

### Pinched harmonics



■ Fret the note as shown, but dig into the string with the side of the thumb as you sound it with the pick.

### Tapped harmonics



■ Fret the note as shown, but sound it with a quick righthand tap at the fret shown (TH17) for a harmonic.

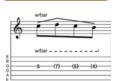
### Touch harmonics



■ A previously sounded note is touched above the fret marked TCH (eg TCH 9) to sound harmonic.

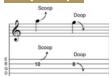
### **VIBRATO ARM (AKA WHAMMY BAR)**

### Vibrato arm bends



■ The note is picked, then the whammy bar is raised and lowered to the pitches shown in brackets.

### Scoop & doop



■ Scoop - depress the bar just before striking the note and release. Doop - lower the bar slightly after picking note.

### Dive bomb



■ Note sustained, then the vib is depressed to slack. Square bracket used if a long-held note has new articulation applied.

### Garalo



Sound the note and 'flick' the tremolo bar with picking hand so it 'quivers'. Results in a 'gargling' sound!

### CAPO



■ A capo creates a new nut, so the above example has the guitar's 'literal' 5th fret now as the 3rd fret.

### **OTHER TECHNIQUES**

### Pick scrape



■ The edge of the pick is dragged down or up along the lower strings to produce a scraped sound.

### Violining



■ Turn volume control off, sound note(s) and then turn vol up for a smooth fade in. Called 'violining'.

### Finger numbering



■ The numbers after the notes are the fingers required to play the fret numbers in the tab below.

### Pima directions



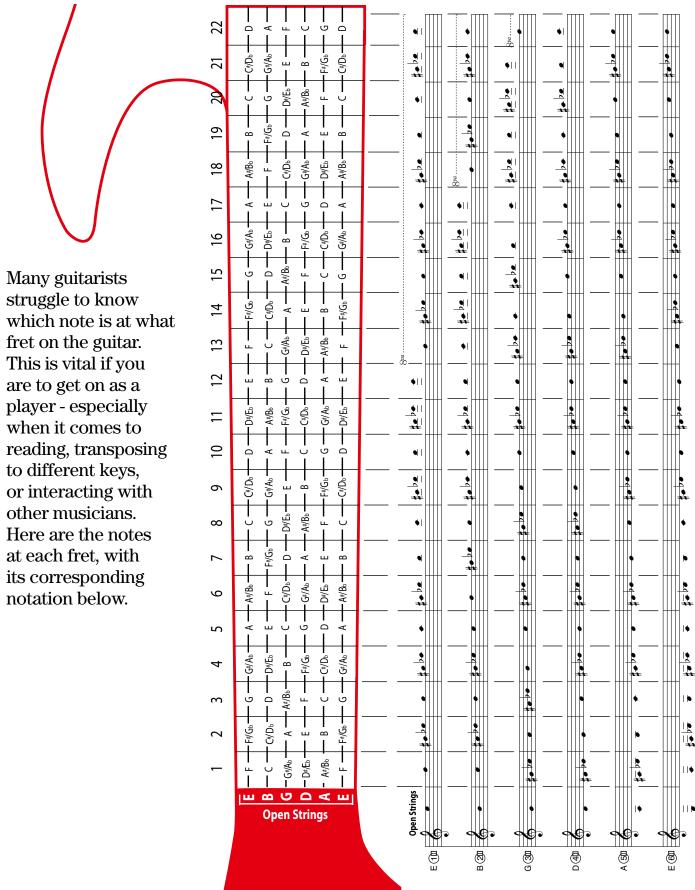
Fingerpicking requirements are shown at the bottom of the tab notation.

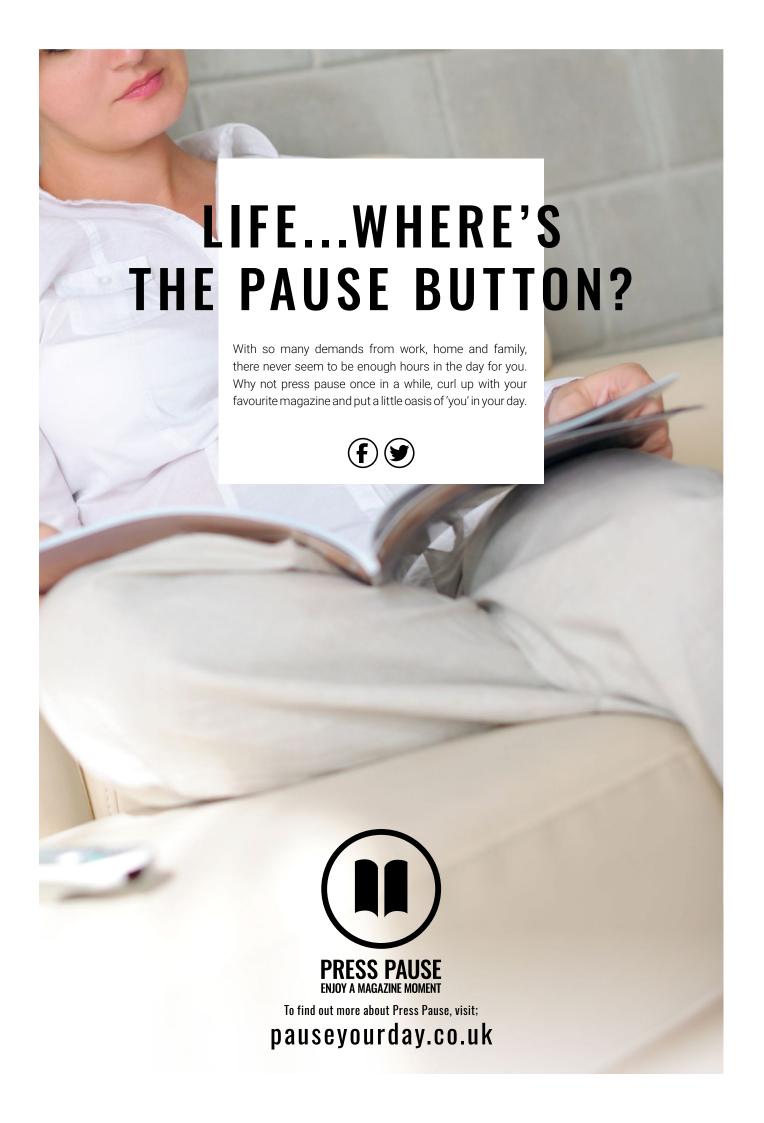
### Right-hand tapping



■ Tap (hammer-on) with a finger of the picking hand onto the fret marked with a circle. Usually with 'i' or 'm'.

HOW TO...
...find all the notes on the fretboard





## Discover the power of... The Blues scale



**Phil Capone** deconstructs the Blues scale and reveals how the flattened 5th could revolutionise your approach to soloing and riff building.

ABILITY RATING

Info

Key Various Tempo Various CD TRACKS 3-32

Will improve your...

✓ Blues scale fluency ✓ Understanding offlat 5s ✓ Solo phrasing

he Blues scale (R-\3-4-\5-5-\7) is a six-note scale. It can also be viewed as the minor Pentatonic with an added flattened 5th interval, creating a passing note between the perfect 4th and 5th of the scale. While the flattened 5th works extremely well in this context, it can also be used as a melody note and hit squarely on the beat with no apologies. The purpose of this feature is to challenge your current perception of the flat 5 and explore the potential of the flattened 5th in all of its potential roles: as a passing note, a melody note or a chromatic approach note. The various styles and harmonic scenarios that you will hear the flattened fifth presented in are testament to its importance and versatility; ignore it at your peril!

The flattened 5th creates the dissonant interval of a tritone (three whole steps) against the root, and unlike any other

### **TECHNIQUE FOCUS**

### Playing the flat 5

The flattened 5th doesn't always lie comfortably under the fingers, so you should experiment with fingerings that are less obvious; these can lead to new discoveries and big leaps in playing techniques. For example, when playing Shape 1 of the Blues scale in A, the higher flat five is usually played on the third string, 8th fret. But if you play it instead on the 4th fret of the second string you'll be shaking up your muscle memory, which is always a good thing! We've presented the opening exercises in Shapes 1 (E shape), two (D shape) and four (A shape) of the A Blues scale. Ultimately, you should strive to be fluent in all five shapes and in as many keys as you can.

interval, it remains the same when inverted. During the middle ages it was believed that playing it would summon the Devil (Diabolus in musica). Hence the blues, with its proliferation of harmonic and melodic flattened 5ths, was referred to as 'the Devil's music'. Over time the huge influence of the blues in popular music has desensitised

### 44 AN INTERVAL WITH THIS MUCH HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE DESERVES SO MUCH MORE THAN TO BE CONSIDERED A PENTATONIC PASSING NOTE ??

listeners' ears and led to a general acceptance of the flattened 5th. Nonetheless it remains a toxic and powerful interval that needs to be handled (and more importantly phrased) with care.

Ever since Black Sabbath shocked the record-buying public with their eponymously-titled debut album, the flattened 5th has been a staple ingredient of heavy rock. But it had emerged in popular music long before that milestone album was released. Since the birth of the blues and jazz, in fact, where the interval has always been used as a melody note. The flattened 5th slowly seeped into mainstream culture but really started becoming fashionable during the late 50s. Leonard Bernstein used it in his incredible score for West Side Story, specifically in Maria, where the chorus melody is based on a

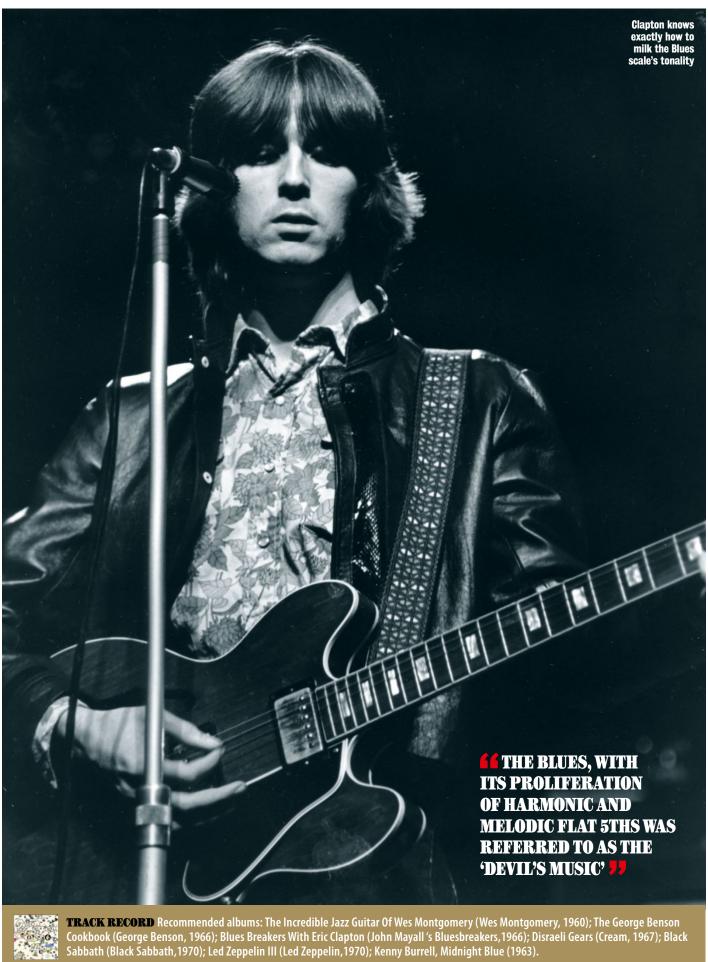
lingering flattened fifth. Guitarist and composer Antonio Carlos Jobim was also fond of featuring flattened 5ths in his bossa nova masterpieces.

And as the 60s began The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and other British blues boom musicians continued to challenge the then current acceptance of the flattened 5th and the Blues scale (George Harrison's solo in I Saw Her Standing There actually starts on the flat 5!). Two other iconic tunes, The Peter Gunn Theme and The Pink Panther Theme, both composed by Henri Mancini, made full use of it, too, celebrating the hippest interval of the decade. In rock, Cream's Sunshine Of Your Love and Hendrix's Purple Haze were awash with the sound of the flat 5, while Wes Montgomery and George Benson's cool recordings demonstrated how the Blues scale could be freely mixed with bop lines in jazz.

An interval with this much historical importance deserves so much more than to be merely considered as a Pentatonic passing note, so grab your guitar and let's give Beelzebub a run for his money!



### DISCOVER THE POWER OF { THE BLUES SCALE

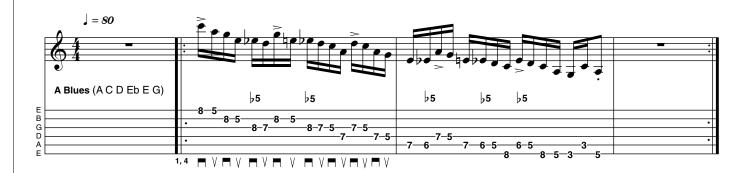


### **EXAMPLE 1 SIX-NOTE SEQUENCING PATTERN**

CD TRACK 3

This is a simple pattern that's easy to apply to the Minor Pentatonic but takes a little longer to master when converting for Blues scale use. Use alternate 16th-note picking throughout (there are no slurs or sweeps to concern you but you

could always work out how to introduce them later) and watch out for the swift position shift on the last beat which should be executed by jumping with your first finger on the sixth string.

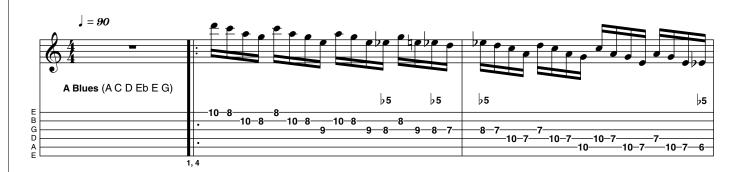


### **EXAMPLE 2 FOUR-NOTE SEQUENCING PATTERN**

CD TRACK 5

Another easy pattern that sits nicely under the fingers when applied to the Minor Pentatonic, but when converted to the Blues scale this four-note pattern may get you scratching your head a little at first. It's well worth persevering

with because the chromaticism introduced by the use of the flat 5 sounds really cool when played at tempo. Take care with the out-of-position stretches at the end of bar 2 (use your first finger to stretch).





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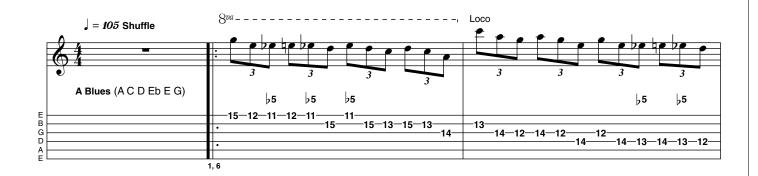
### DISCOVER THE POWER OF { THE BLUES SCALE

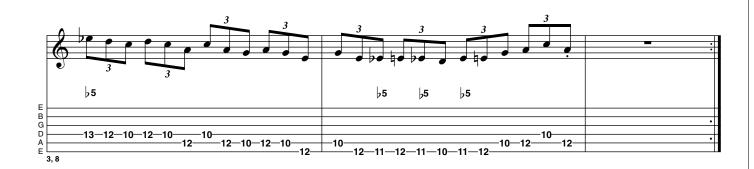
### **EXAMPLE 3 THREE-NOTE SEQUENCING PATTERN - SHAPE 4**

### CD TRACK 7

This alternate-picked triplet pattern requires swift position jumps. In the first bar you'll need to temporarily shift your hand down to the 11th fret, switching from using your first finger on the 12th fret (first string) to your second finger.

This will allow you to alternate between E<sub>1</sub> and E using your first and second fingers. Stretch up for the D on the 15th fret using your fourth finger. Your hand position should return to the 12th fret at the end of the first bar.



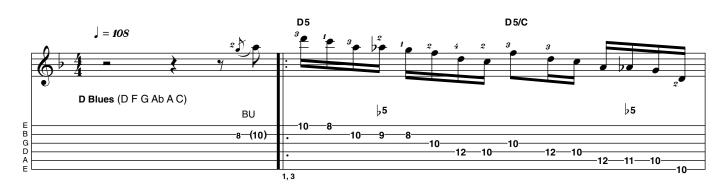


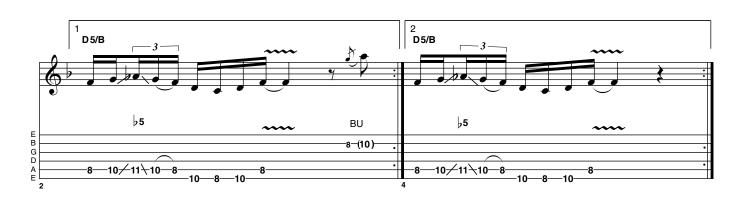
### **EXAMPLE 4 FLAT 5 PASSING NOTE, PSYCHEDELIC ROCK STYLE**

### CD TRACK 9

If you've never incorporated the flattened 5th into your Pentatonic solos then you're in for a treat. This lick illustrates how much cooler your solos can sound with the introduction of little Blues scale dissonance, demonstrated here in

early Clapton style. Use alternate 16th-note picking throughout and look out for the jump down to the 8th fret in the second bar. To keep this slick, play the D on the 10th fret (previous bar) with your third fretting-hand finger.



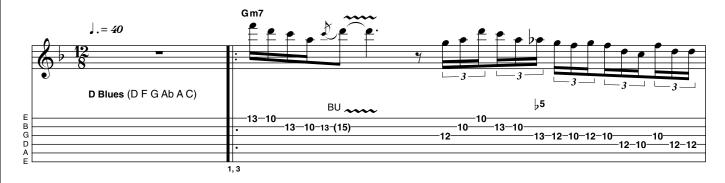


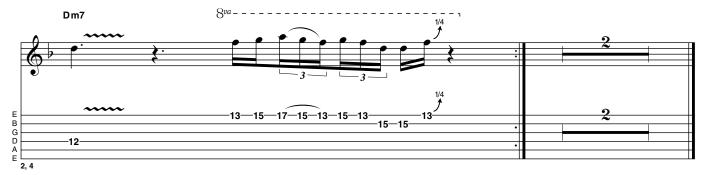
### EXAMPLE 5 FLAT 5 PASSING-NOTE IN A MINOR BLUES EARLY BLUES ROCK STYLE

CD TRACK 11

As a session player during the 60s, Jimmy Page knew exactly how effective the Blues scale could be. This example suggests how he might have used the flat 5 passing notes in early Zeppelin, arguably when his playing was at its most fluent.

Here the Blues scale is used in a D Minor blues over the IV Minor chord (Gm), the final tonic note concluding right on the first beat of the Dm in bar 2. Notice how the triplet based lick is tailored to fit the Gm chord by starting on the note G.



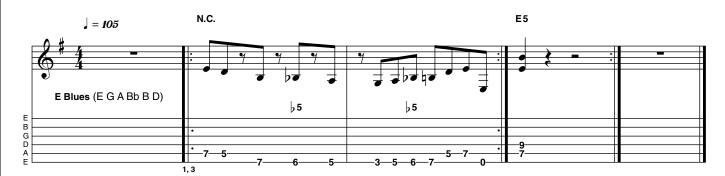


### **EXAMPLE 6 FLAT 5 PASSING NOTE, CLASSIC-ROCK RIFF STYLE**

CD TRACK 13

The Blues scale is completely indispensible for creating riffs. It is strong enough to be played without harmonic accompaniment; it can be played over the related tonic Minor chord, and even 'forced' over tonic Major or Dominant

chords. Although this riff could easily be played in open position, it sounds much fatter when played around the 5th fret area (C shape). Use your fretting hand's first finger for both the low A and low G notes on the sixth string.

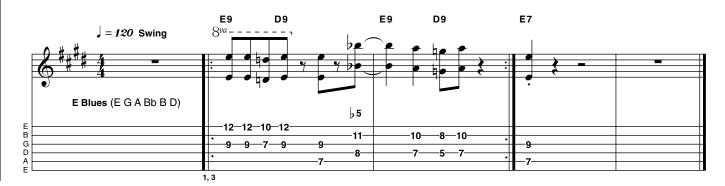


### EXAMPLE 7 FLAT 5 AS A MELODY NOTE, JAZZ-STYLE

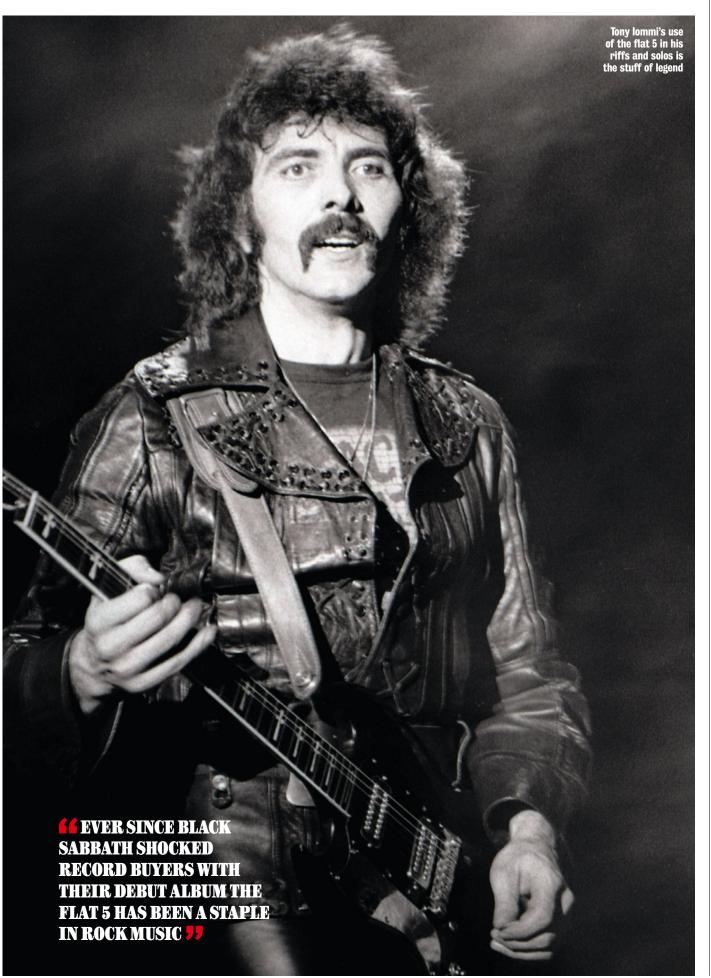
CDTRACK 15

In this jazzy Dominant vamp, the D9 chord is ignored, allowing the Em Blues scale to be phrased right across the changes. This is an effective approach but requires strong phrasing to be successful. Although the notes in the second

bar don't exactly work on paper, the lick sounds cool because the phrasing is melodic and resolves as your ear would expect it to. Don't be tempted to fingerpick the octaves; hit them with pick (or thumb) using downstrokes.



### DISCOVER THE POWER OF { THE BLUES SCALE



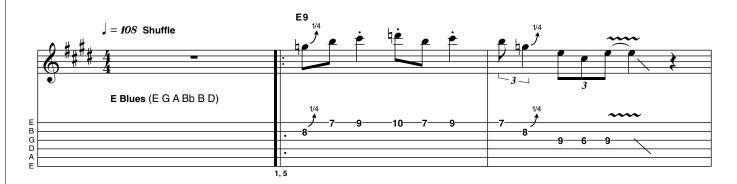
CONICPIX

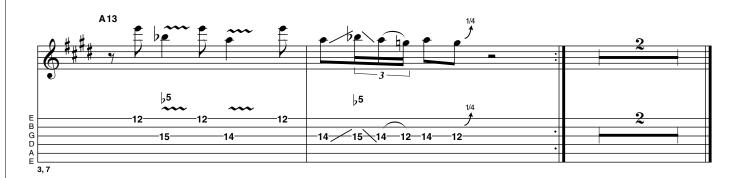
### **EXAMPLE 8 FLAT 5 MELODY NOTE OVER CHORD IV OF A BLUES**

**CD TRACK 17** 

The Blues scale, as we discovered in Example 5, sounds awesome when played over chord IV of the blues, but in that scenario as a passing note. What if you hit the interval hard against the chord? In bars 3-4 of this example, you can hear

the E Blues scale played against A13 (chord IV). Notice how the flat 5 resolves down to an A (the chord's root) in both cases, illustrating preferred resolution direction when playing over the IV chord of a blues.



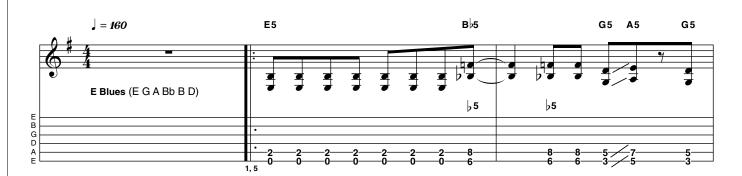


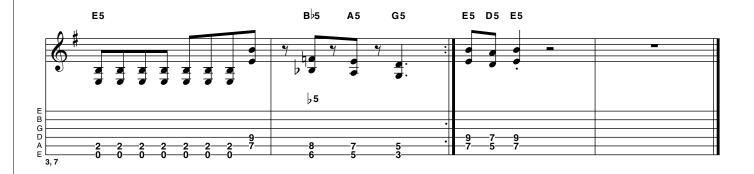
### EXAMPLE 9 FLAT FIVE MELODY NOTE, POWER CHORD RIFF STYLE

CD TRACK 19

The Blues scale can also be used to create classic, menacing heavy rock-style riffs. Each step of the scale can be harmonised by adding the perfect 5th above, and although this involves adding non-diatonic notes, the character

and sound of the scale is still preserved. To intensify the levels of demonic doom, try approaching the flattened 5th power chord directly from the tonic chord as illustrated here (ie E5 -  $B_s$ 5.





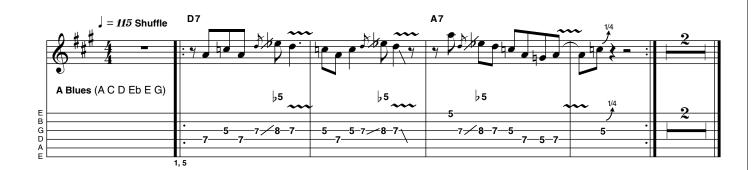
### DISCOVER THE POWER OF { THE BLUES SCALE

### **EXAMPLE 10 FLAT FIVE AS CHROMATIC APPROACH TO PERFECT 4TH**

### CD TRACK 21

The flattened 5th sounds uber cool when used as a chromatic (ie one fret) approach note. In this example we've illustrated how it can be used to descend onto the perfect 4th from the fret above, in much the same way as in the

previous example but without lingering on the note. Notice that this technique works equally well over the IV (D7) or I (A7) chords. Sliding into the flat 5 from the fret below heightens the effect, as you can hear on the full mix.

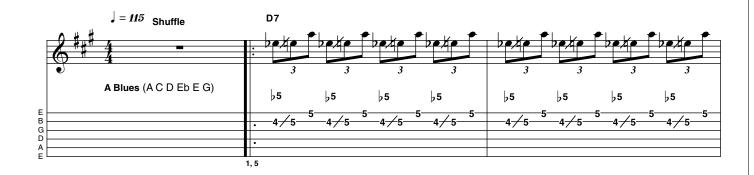


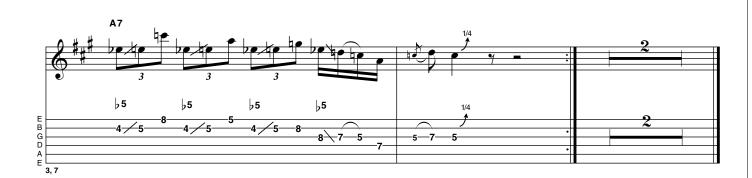
### **EXAMPLE 11 FLAT 5 AS CHROMATIC APPROACH TO PERFECT 5TH**

### CDTRACK 23

Shape 1 (E shape) of the Blues scale places the upper flattened 5th on the third string (usually fretted with your fourth finger). But playing this note on the second string with an out-of-position stretch will force you to consider sliding

it up one fret, resolving it onto the perfect 5th. This example demonstrates just how cool this can sound (try bending it up as well, which sounds fab!), highlighting the importance of exploring alternative fingerings for the flat 5.



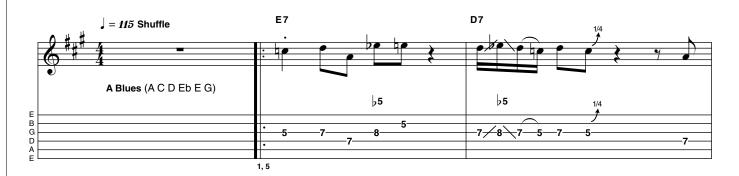


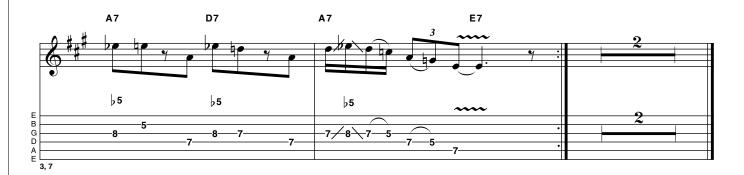
### **EXAMPLE 12 USING CHROMATIC APPROACH NOTES TO OUTLINE BLUES CHANGES**

### **CDTRACK25**

In this example the flat 5 is used to outline all three chords (I-IV-V) of a blues progression. In bar 1 the note is used to highlight the root of chord V (E7) while in bar 3 the 5th of I (A7) and the root of IV (D7) are both highlighted using this

approach. The flat 5 has been used in this way since the earliest days of jazz. It's a 'thoughtful' application of the note that can give your solos a classy edge, setting your playing apart from predictable blues scale shredders.



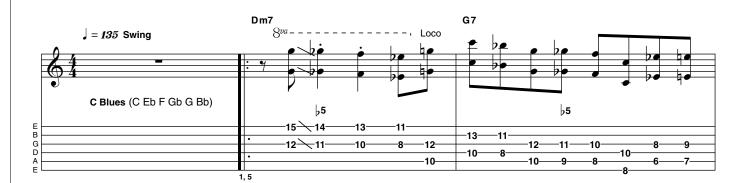


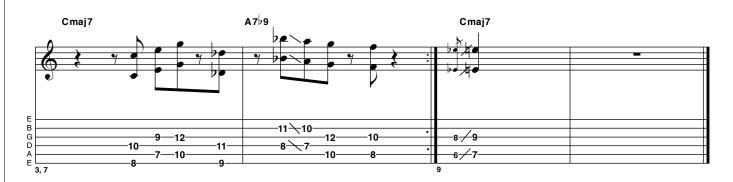
### **EXAMPLE 13 APPLYING THE BLUES SCALE TO II-V-I PROGRESSIONS**

### CD TRACK 27

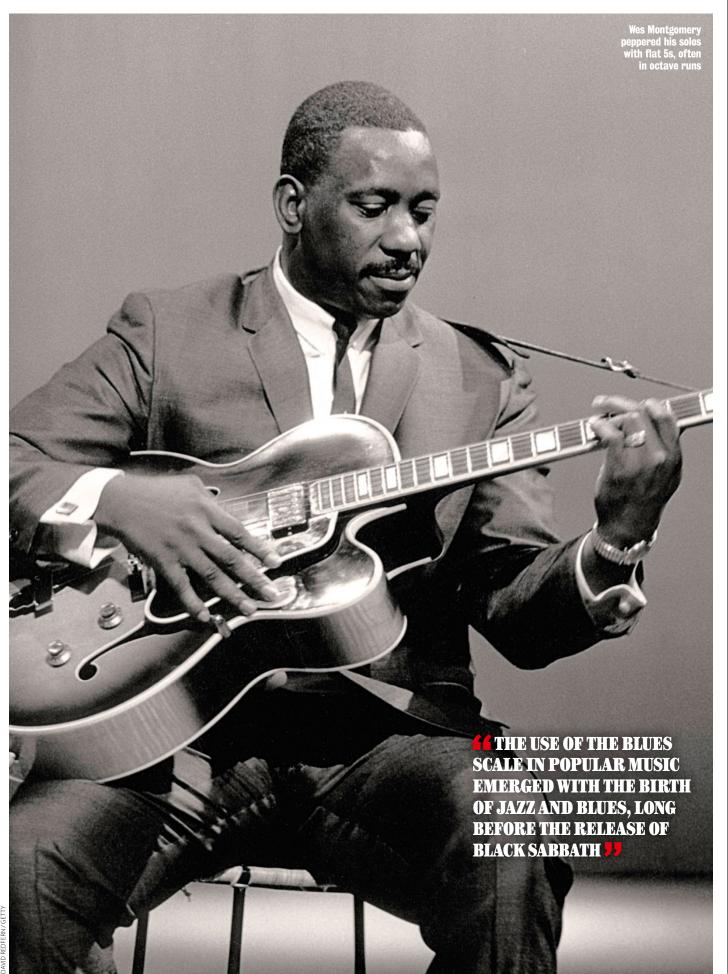
Believe it or not, the Blues scale can sound fantastic when 'forced' over II-V-I progressions. Obviously it's not going to sound cool if you don't know what you're doing, but mix in a few choice chord tones and your II-V-I licks will enter

a new dimension. While you cannot play 'proper' jazz using the Blues scale alone, it will add jazziness to your blues licks. Remember to avoid fingerpicking octaves but use downstrokes with pick or thumb for best results.





### DISCOVER THE POWER OF { THE BLUES SCALE



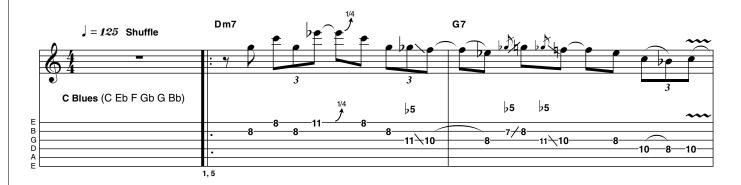
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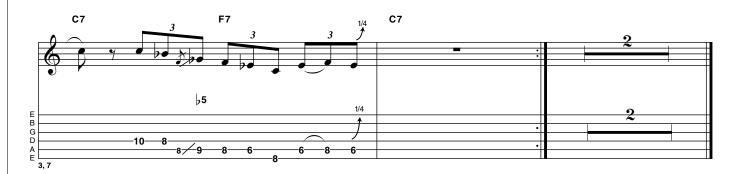
### EXAMPLE 14 USING THE BLUES SCALE OVER II-V-I MOVES, BLUES STYLE

CDTRACK 29

Even if jazz is not your thing, chances are you going to need to solo over a II-V-I sequence sooner or later. This example illustrates how the progression can be played Robben Ford style. In bar 1 (II chord) the flat five functions as a simple passing note, in bar 2 two chromatic approach

notes highlight both the root and minor seventh of G7 (V). Finally, a cool blues scale lick that omits the perfect fifth note to create a chromatic approach to the root of the F7 (IV) chord.

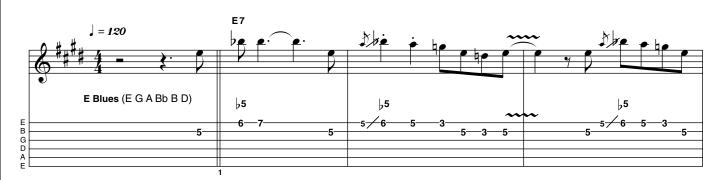


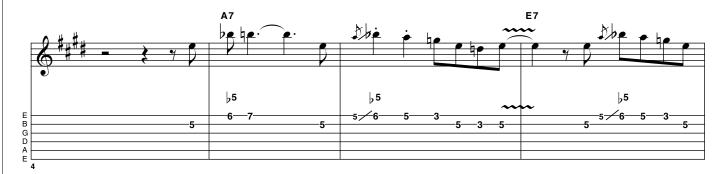


### FINAL MINITUNE CD TRACK 31

Our final mini piece incorporates all the concepts you have studied in the previous examples. It illustrates how the Blues scale is not just for solos; you can create cool melodies with it too. In bars 3, 4, 6 & 7, to highlight the flattened fifth further, the B<sub>b</sub> is also chromatically approached. Remember that chromatic approach notes will highlight any note you use them

against so employ them wisely! Technically, there's nothing difficult here. Just watch out for the repeated six-note pattern that begins in bar 17 during the solo section. You'll find this is easiest to play when using your second finger to slide up to the 7th fret and your first finger to slide down to the 5th fret.

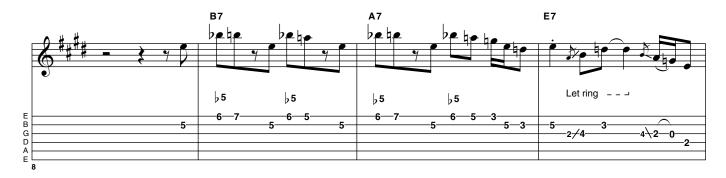


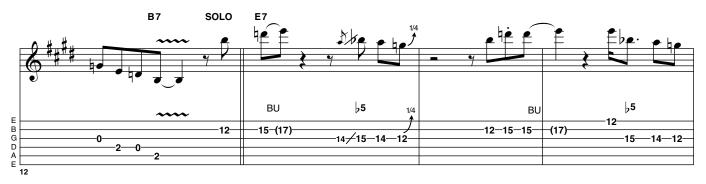


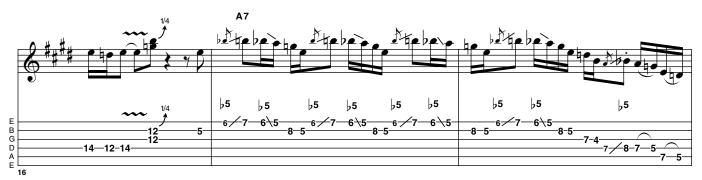
### DISCOVER THE POWER OF { THE BLUES SCALE

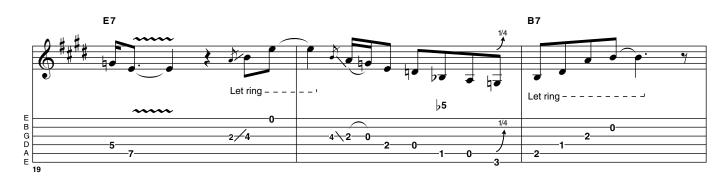
### FINAL MINITUNE ... CONTINUED

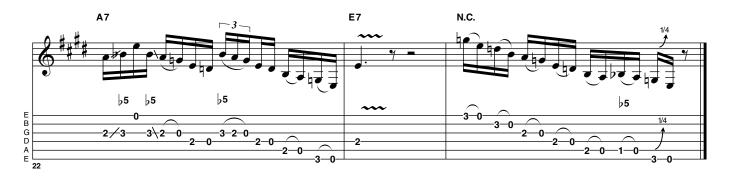
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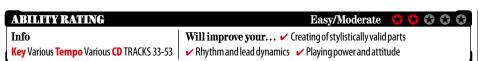
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## Grunge sounds of Seattle and beyond



With the recent passing of Chris Cornell, we were reminded of the power and impact of grunge. In celebration of the genre, GT's **Jon Bishop** presents 10 tracks in the style of grunge's top bands.



elcome to the chaotic world of grunge guitar. The scene started in American cities such as Seattle in the early 90s but quickly became a global phenomenon. Grunge fuses heavy rock with influences from 80s alternative rock acts, such as The Pixies and Sonic Youth. The music also has a strong punk element and it was in part a reaction to the stadium rock scene at time where spandex and guitar solos were replaced with a more basic and direct approach (much as punk had done with prog and rock in the 70s).

The overdriven guitar riff is a central aspect in the grunge style. Another key feature that is often used is a change in dynamics. The concept of having a quieter, softer introduction or verse and a loud and heavy chorus was popularised by bands like The Pixies in the late 1980s and was adopted by many bands including Nirvana and Radiohead who had mega hits with

Smells Like Teen Spirit and Creep, using this very approach.

As the music was a reaction to technically complex and self-indulgent rock, grunge guitar is generally fairly straightforward to play. Techniques such as two-handed tapping, sweep picking and legato were

### **44** THE GRUNGE **MOVEMENT MADE AN EVERLASTING DENT IN** THE MUSIC SCENE AND IN POP CULTURE ""

generally viewed as no-go areas. Lead guitar is still a feature among many of the bands featured, however, such as the Hendrix-style lead work by Pearl Jam and the frenzied outbursts by Smashing Pumpkins frontman and guitarist, Billy Corgan.

The main palette to work from when

writing is the ever-popular power chord and Pentatonic scale combination. One element that is popular in grunge is the use of non-diatonic harmony (chromatic chords from different keys). Using non-diatonic harmony can produce dissonant and surprising riffs that sound different to more common chord progressions created from one key. The essential thing to focus on here is the detail in the time feel and tone and the consistency of the delivery.

Many of these GT lessons home in on a particular technique or concept, so here we are looking at the art of putting all the elements together to perform a full grunge song. As this style is all about the energy in the performance, we recorded this month's tracks live in a new studio facility (Apple Tree Studios) in Dorset. We enlisted the help of rock drummer Alan Dale to perform the tracks and maintain that 'live' feel. Our audio features 10 recordings with tabbed out guitar parts. There are also backing tracks with the guitar performances removed.

Many thanks to Universal Audio for the loan of the Apollo interface and to Alan Dale for performing the drums.

### **TECHNIQUE FOCUS**

**Pedal power** 

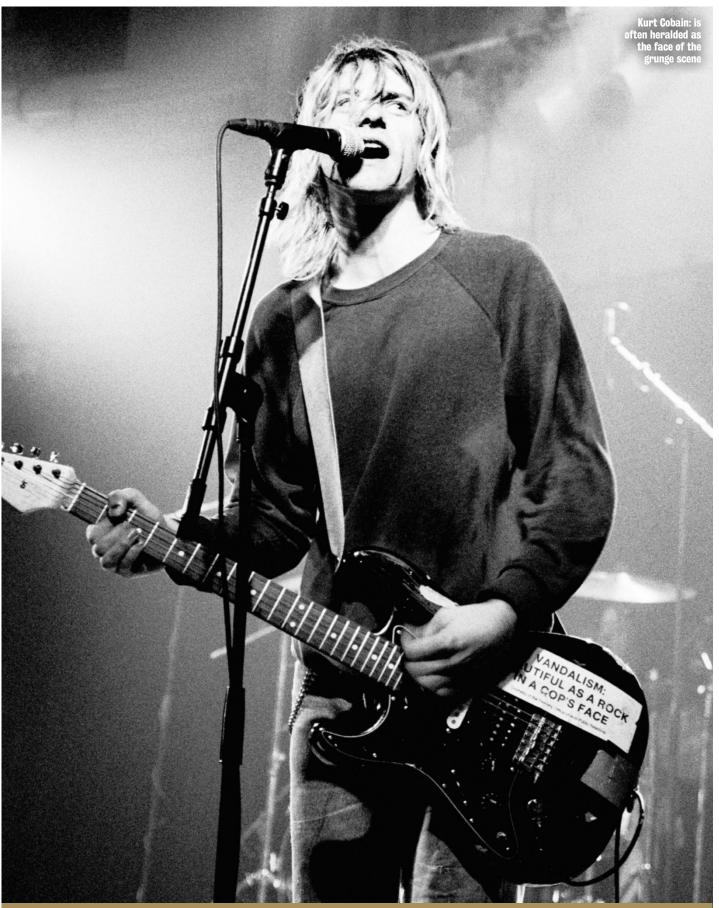


A SELECTION OF classic grunge pedals was used to record the examples. The yellow Boss Overdrive was a key ingredient of Kurt Cobain's

> guitar sound. The Arion Stereo Chorus was a budget pedal in the 90s that now commands a hefty price on the second-hand market due to the lush, Leslie speakerstyle effect it produces. The fuzz pedal is able to produce a facemelting amount of distortion and sounds that are suitably rough round the edges. Finally, the good old wah-wah pedal is very handy, especially for the bands with a funk or Hendrix edge.



### SEATTLE **AND BEYOND**



**TRACK RECORD** There are many great recordings from the grunge era. Most of the recordings for the artists on the iconic Sub Pop label are good starting points. Obviously, Nirvana's multi-platinum album and music scene game-changer Nevermind (1991) is a classic. Soundgarden's brilliant Superunknown (1994) features great odd-time riffing and some of the best rock vocal performances in the business.

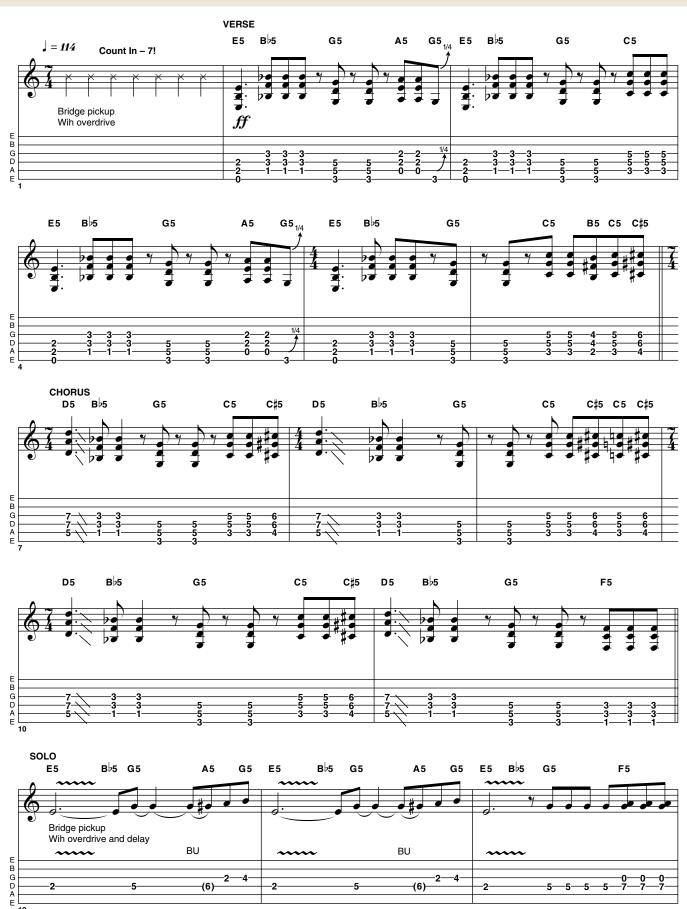
PETER PAKVIS / GETTY

### **EXAMPLE 1 SOUNDGARDEN**

CD TRACK 34

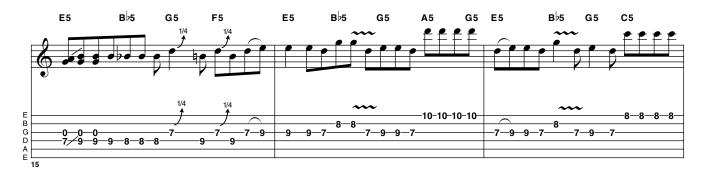
Our first track uses 7/4 and 4/4 signatures with the count-in on the backing track being seven beats. The riff is not hard to play, but you may need to

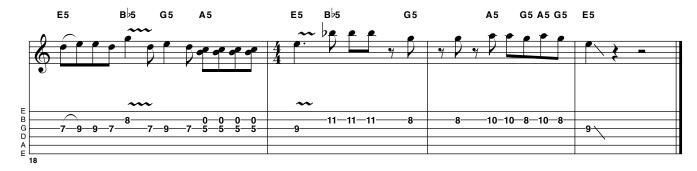
practise the feel if you are not used to moving between odd time and 4/4. The most solid-sounding results will come from using down picking for the riffs.



### **EXAMPLE 1 SOUNDGARDEN ...CONTINUED**

### CD TRACK 34



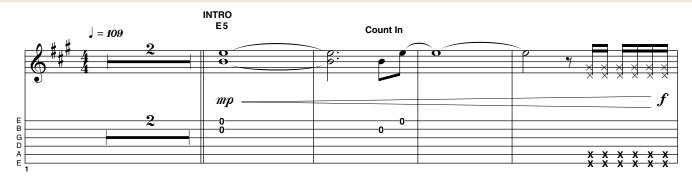


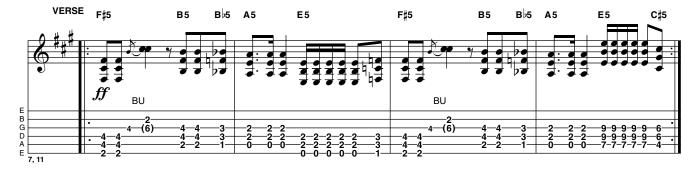
### EXAMPLE 2 NIRVANA

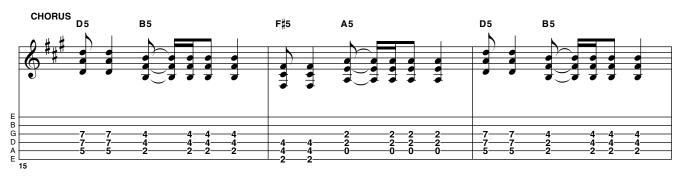
CDTRACK 36

Our second track opens with a section that builds in dynamic. This dynamic shift is a popular trick and makes the riffs and choruses sound super heavy.

In bar 7 there is a unison bend to navigate. Simply bend the note on the third string up to the same pitch as the note on the second string.

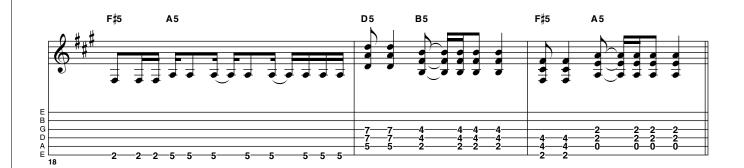


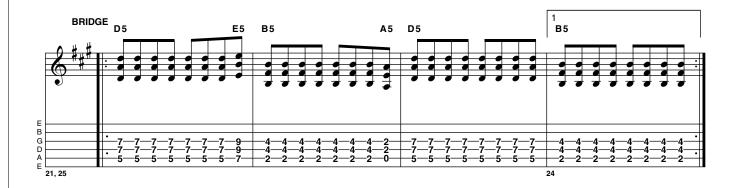


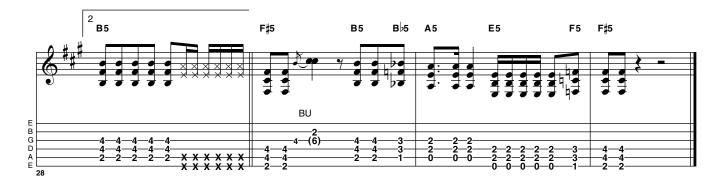


### **EXAMPLE 2 NIRVANA ...CONTINUED**

CDTRACK 36





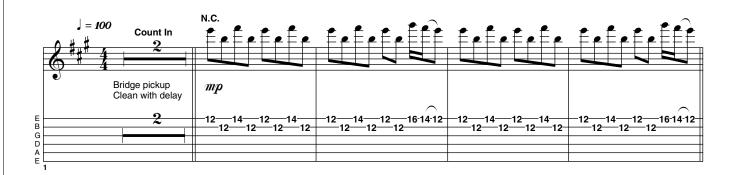


### **EXAMPLE 3 SMASHING PUMPKINS**

CD TRACK 38

More loud-soft dynamics. This time a lead riff is played before the heavy chords come in. Use down picking for the chorus and keep it steady and driving. The

soloing at the end is reminiscent of Billy Corgan's frenetic outbursts. Give it your all and think feel and emotion over accuracy or perfection.



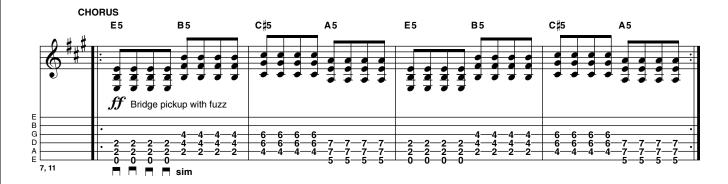
### SEATTLE { AND BEYOND

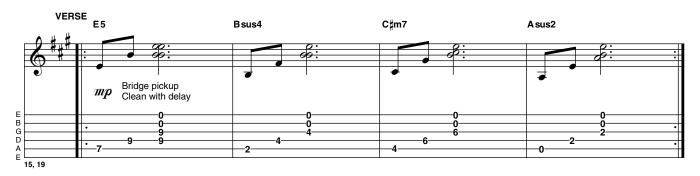


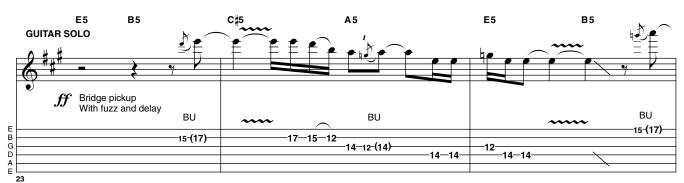
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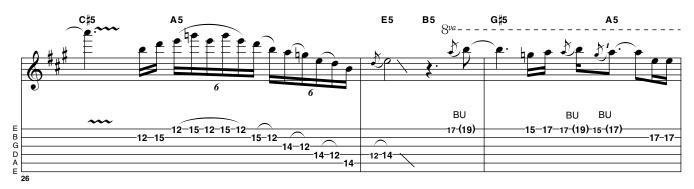
### **EXAMPLE 3 SMASHING PUMPKINS ...CONTINUED**

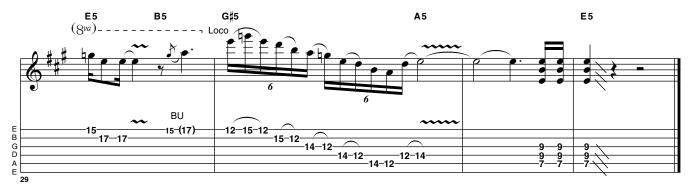
CDTRACK 38







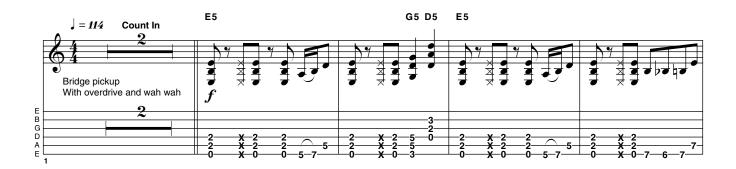


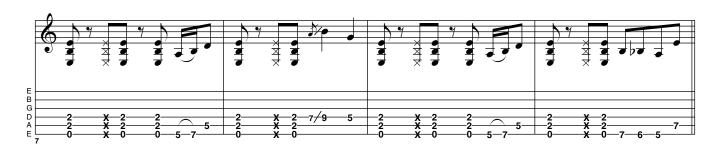


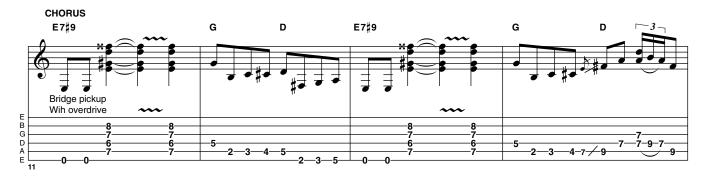
EXAMPLE 4 ALICE IN CHAINS CDTRACK 40

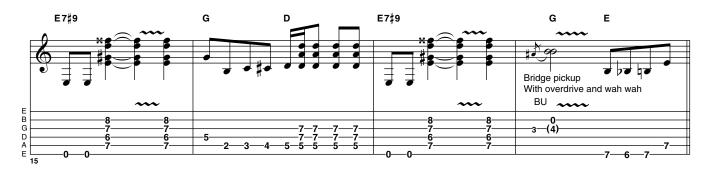
This funky unison riffing works well with the wah-wah used as a filter. Again, none of these riffs are particularly hard, but should still be played with a tight,

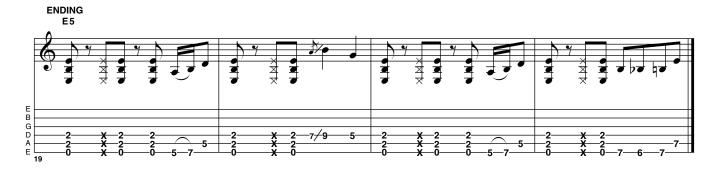
rhythmic feel. There is another unison bend to navigate in bar 18, although this time the wah-wah pedal is used to add some colour to it.











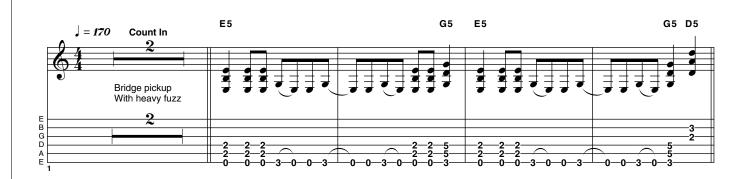


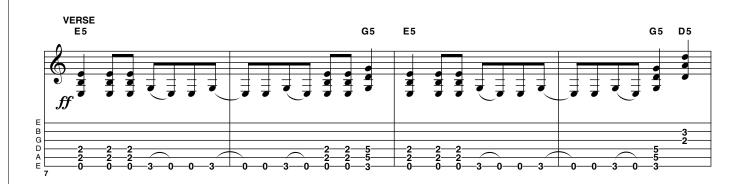
#### **EXAMPLE 5 MUDHONEY**

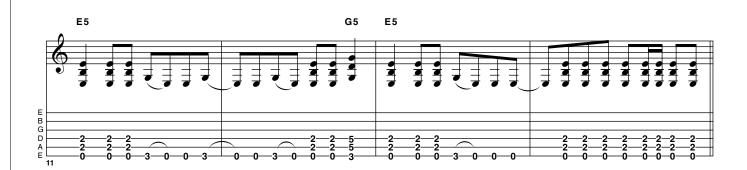
CD TRACK 42

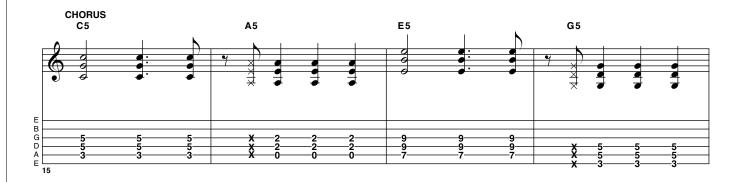
It's time to crack out the fuzz pedal and turn things up to 11. This track is fast-paced and great fun to play. The riff is played in unison with the bass guitar. In

bar 23 there is a lead line to learn. Let all the notes run into each other and add a little finger vibrato.

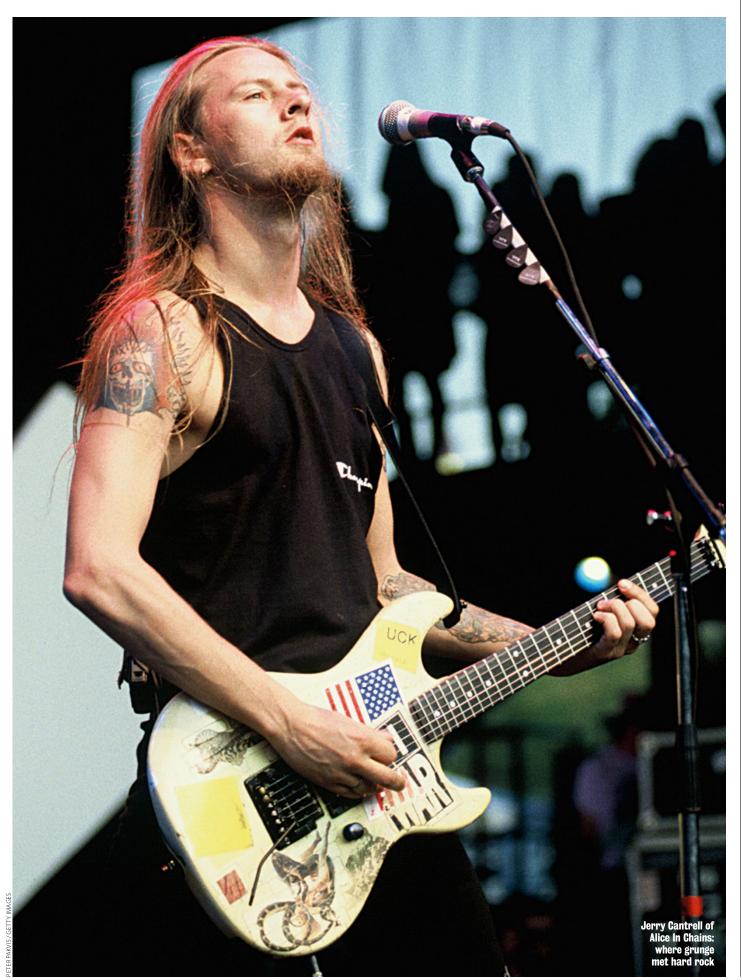






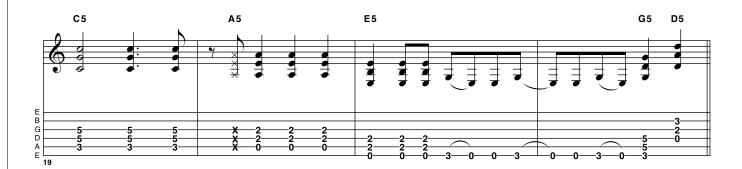


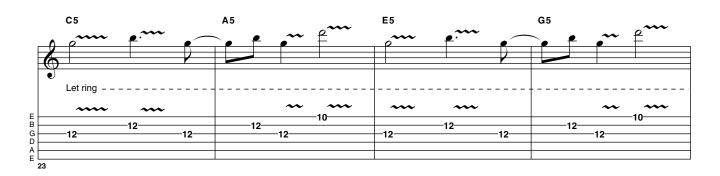
## SEATTLE { AND BEYOND

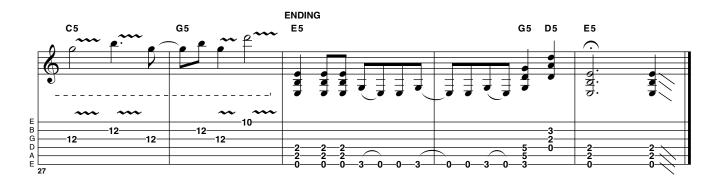


#### **EXAMPLE 5 MUDHONEY ... CONTINUED**

CDTRACK 42







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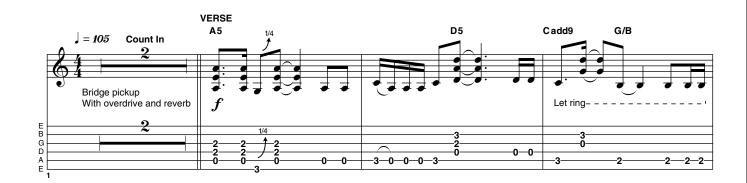
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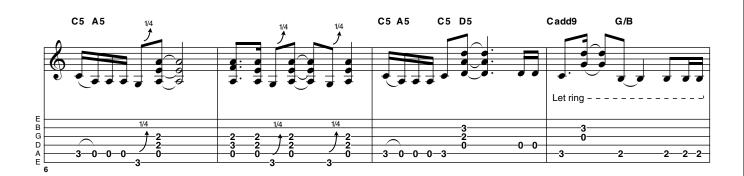


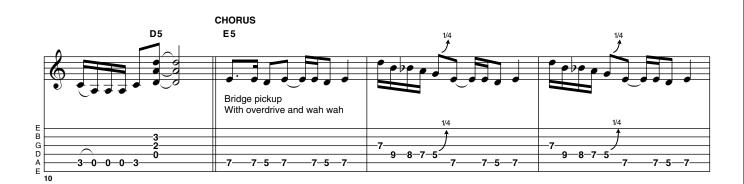
EXAMPLE 6 PEARL JAM CD TRACK 44

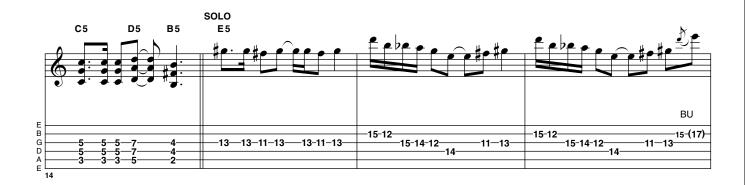
The chorus here contains another set of riffs that work well with the wah-wah pedal. The lead line is harmonised in the solo and then there is a fast repeating

phrase to play at the end. This classic repeater is fairly easy to play, but start slowly and make sure the hammer-ons and pull-offs are accurate.



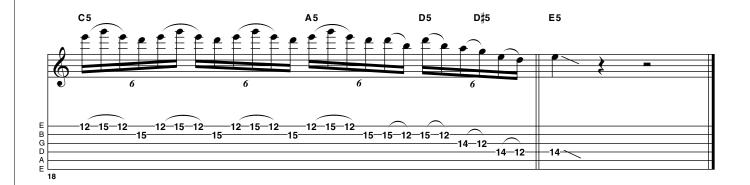






#### **EXAMPLE 6 PEARL JAM ... CONTINUED**

CDTRACK 44

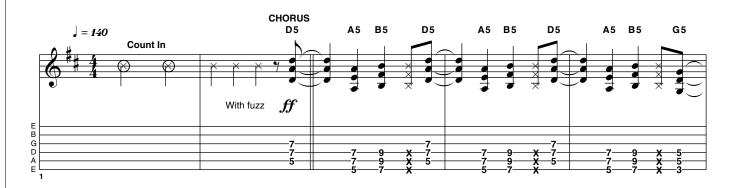


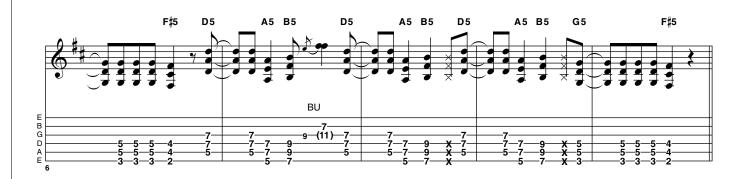
#### **EXAMPLE 7 BABES IN TOYLAND**

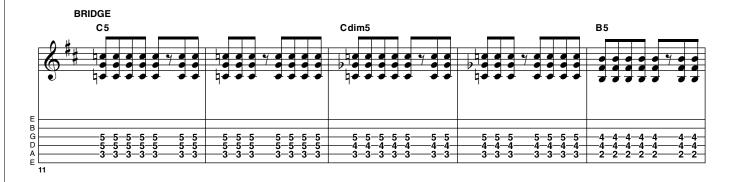
CD TRACK 46

This one based on the style of the Minneapolis grungers is simple, but superfun to play. Use down picking exclusively and aim for a tight and consistent,

driving feel. There are unison bends, which use the same technique as in the previous examples.

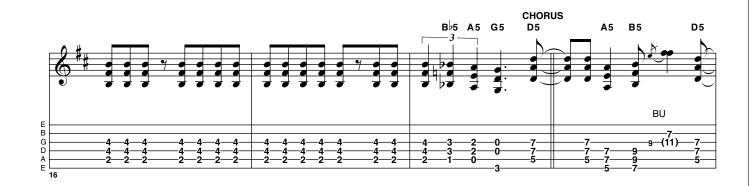


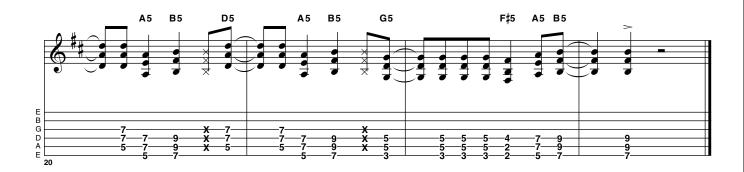




#### **EXAMPLE 7 BABES IN TOYLAND ... CONTINUED**

CDTRACK 46



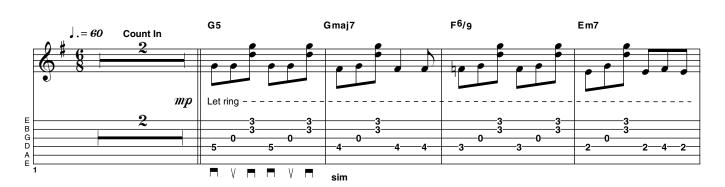


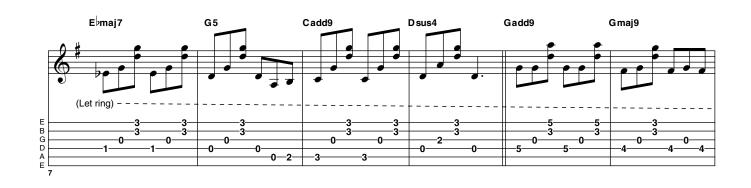
#### EXAMPLE 8 **TEMPLE OF THE DOG**

CDTRACK 48

Here we switch to 6/8 time and a clean tone with a Leslie-style chorus. The picking is tricky so there's a suggested pattern in the tab. The chorus chords

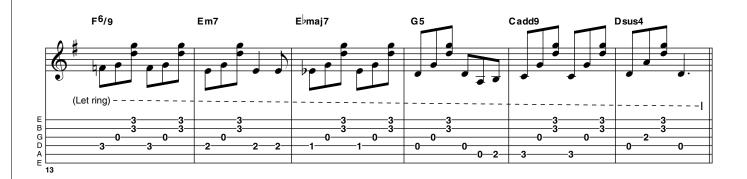
are played using the thumb over the neck to fret the bass notes. Good fretting-hand muting is required to stop the fifth and third strings ringing.

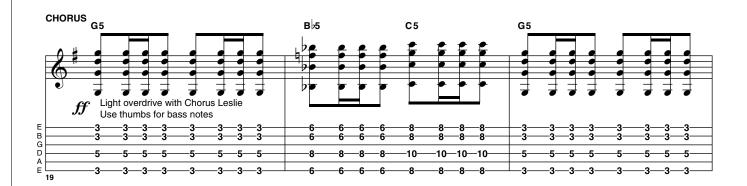


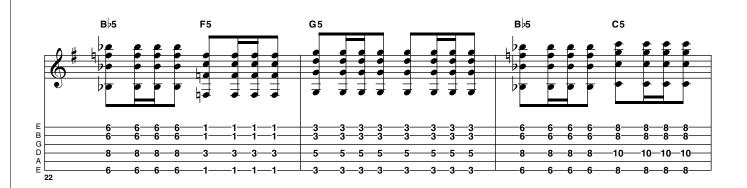


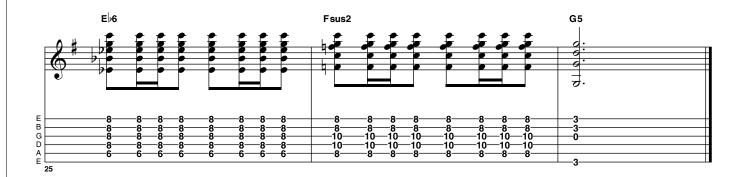
#### EXAMPLE 8 TEMPLE OF THE DOG ... CONTINUED...

CDTRACK 48









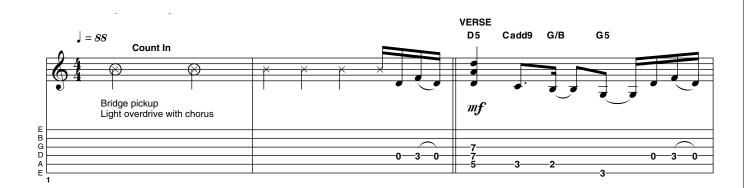
## SEATTLE { AND BEYOND

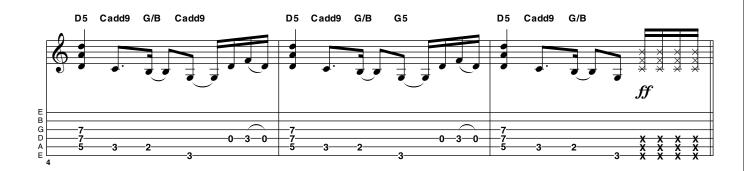
#### **EXAMPLE 9 STONE TEMPLE PILOTS**

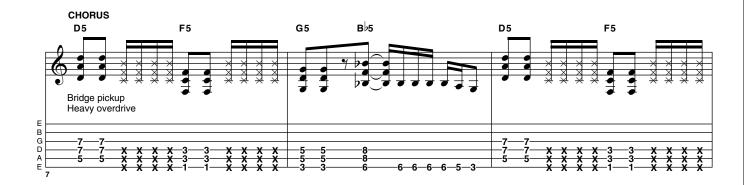
CD TRACK 50

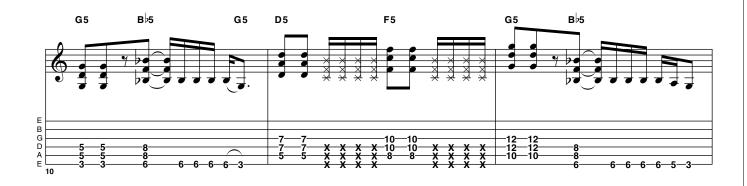
For the verse riff let all the chords ring on as you shift bass notes. The huge sounding mute strokes in the chorus are best played by muting low down the

fretboard on the low strings. It is worth experimenting with where the best mute stroke sound is located on your instrument.



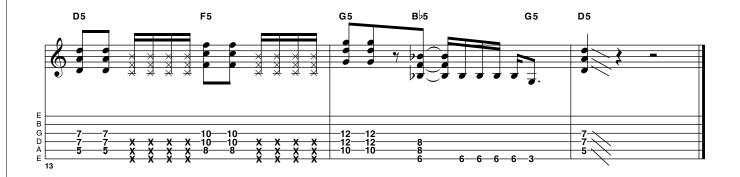






#### EXAMPLE 9 STONE TEMPLE PILOTS ... CONTINUED

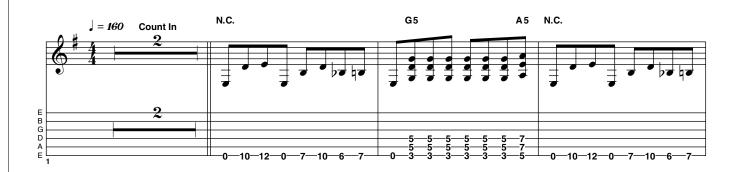
CDTRACK 50

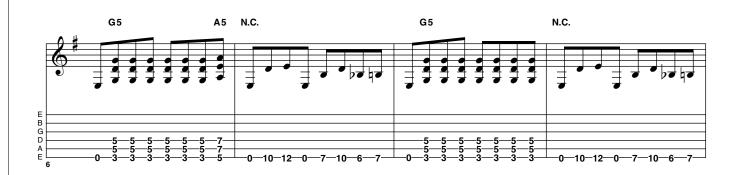


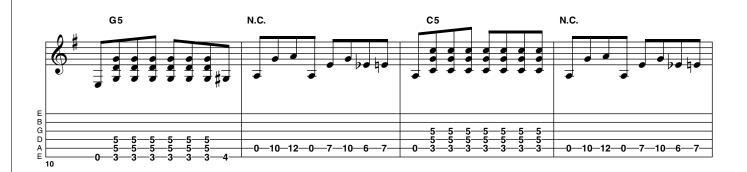
EXAMPLE 10 L7 CD TRACK 52

These fast riffs in the style of LA's all-girl grunge band are deceptively tricky if you are to maintain a consistent time feel. This is due to the position shifts

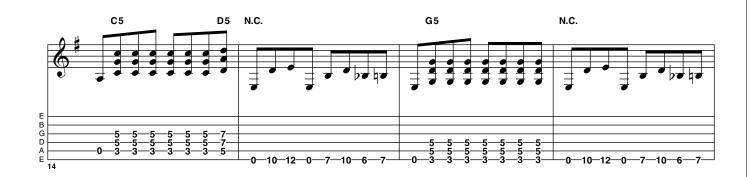
required to play the riff on a single string - doing it this way allows the pedal tone to be played throughout. Use down picking if you can for a solid feel.

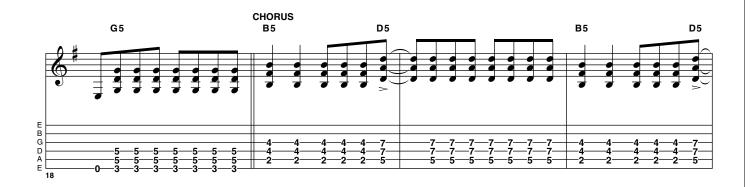


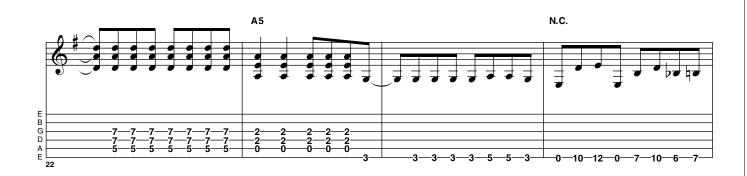


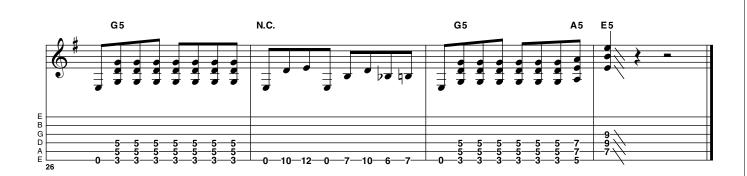


EXAMPLE 10 L7 ...CONTINUED CD TRACK 52









# **Antonio Forcione** Masterclass pt 1



**Will McNicol** sits down with this multi awardwinning acoustic guitarist for a discussion about his musical influences, ideas and techniques.

**Antonio Forcione:** 

one of the finest

#### **ABILITY RATING**

Info

Key: Bm/Em Tempo: 130bpm CD: TRACKS CD-ROM Will improve your

- ✓ Groove playing
- ✓ Fingerstyle independence
- ✓ Improvisation

ith a relentless international touring schedule, multiple awards under his belt and being hailed by the music press as the 'Jimi Hendrix of acoustic guitar', Antonio Forcione is certainly a force to be reckoned with. But for all his virtuosity on the instrument, what sets

Antonio apart from so many others is the diversity of his playing and compositions. Everything from West-African Kora melodies, Italian folk dances, Piazzollainspired Argentinian tangos and Cuban songs have appeared in his performances and recordings. By immersing himself in the countries where he finds musical inspiration and surrounding himself with musicians from around the globe, Antonio has gathered a vast palette from which to draw inspiration. Antonio started his musical life not on guitar, but on drums. You'll see from the following examples how important rhythm and groove is to Antonio's playing. He describes his

> internal pulse as being like a musical compass – so no matter how fast he's playing, or indeed how slow - he always knows where to land.

The first example Antonio talks about in this lesson comes from his African influences particularly that of the Kora and the playing of Seckou Keita (Antonio is in a group called AKA Trio with Seckou). The idiomatic decorative elements to Kora playing are taken onto the guitar via bursts of slurs while maintaining a solid 6/8 groove. As the example continues the importance of the bassline becomes ever more apparent as it provides precisely the "musical compass" that Antonio talks about. You'll also see and hear how relaxed and laid-back the piece sounds. As you work vour way through the lesson, keep things slow to begin with, and maintain that relaxed and laid-back

feel (easier said than done, I know!).

When discussing his approach when in accompaniment-mode, Antonio gives some examples of how to move away from some of the more common textures and chord shapes. Breaking away from comfort zones is always a challenge on the guitar, so this will be a perfect excuse to think a little outside the box. Natural harmonics feature heavily here and, as you'll see, Antonio can swap effortlessly between these and a more conventional chordal accompaniment. A little slow and steady practice jumping between the harmonics on 12th and 7th frets and chord shapes back down the neck will certainly be helpful. These ideas would be perfect for accompanying a singer or providing the

#### **66** BREAKING AWAY FROM COMFORT ZONES IS ALWAYS A CHALLENGE, **SO HERE'S THE PERFECT EXCUSE TO THINK A LITTLE** OUTSIDE THE BOX "

rhythm guitar backdrop for a solo.

And to conclude the first part of this two-part video series, Antonio talks a little about some of his improvisation techniques - again thinking about how to approach things slightly differently. Everything from fingerstyle licks, plectrum licks and even thumb-scratching basslines (which is tremendous fun!) gets covered on a whistlestop tour of Antonio's unique improvisation methodology. I really hope you have some fun with these examples and I'll see you next month for the second instalment in this special masterclass.

**NEXT MONTH** Will presents another exclusive masterclass with the great Antonio Forcione







TRACK RECORD Antonio has an impressive back catalogue spanning a vast array of styles and with multiple musical collaborators. His recent albums, Sketches Of Africa and Compared To What with jazz-soul singer Sarah Jane Morris would be a good place to start. Visit www. antonioforcione.com for more on Antonio's various projects and keep your eyes peeled for a new Cuban release due soon with his AKA Trio.

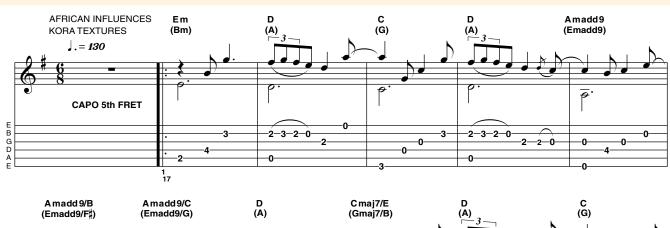
## ANTONIO FORCIONE PT1 VIDEO MASTERCLASS

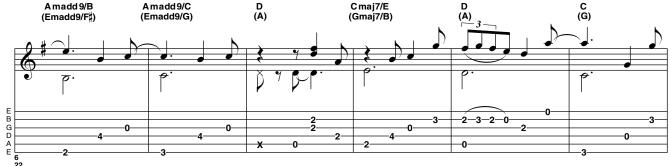
#### SECTION 1 KORA TEXTURES

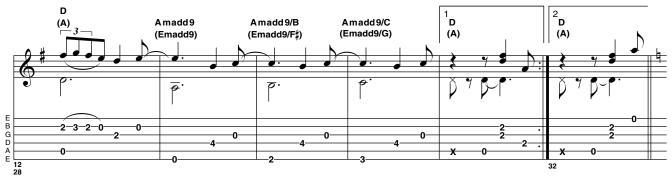
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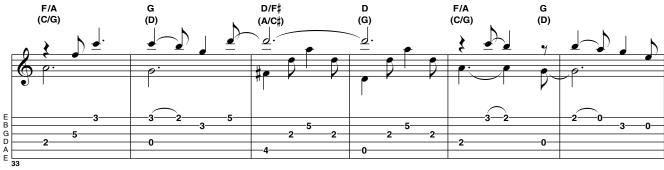
One particularly idiomatic feature of the Kora is its quick bursts of ornamental embellishment, and these have been used by Antonio as inspiration for this example. On the Kora they are all played on individual strings, but to recreate

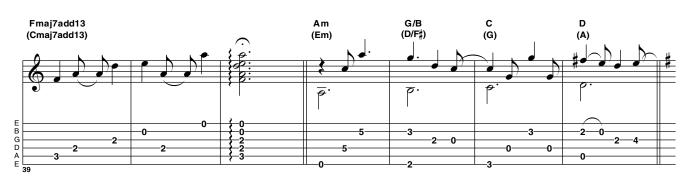
a similar effect on the guitar Antonio has used slurs. Aim to make these as smooth as possible while maintaining the 6/8 rhythm, which gives this example a really satisfying groove.









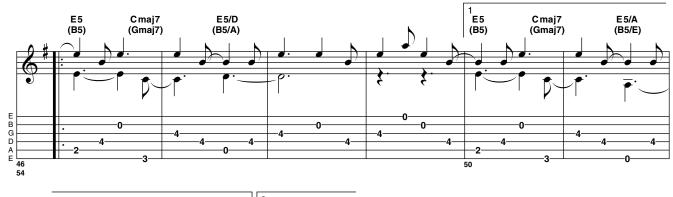


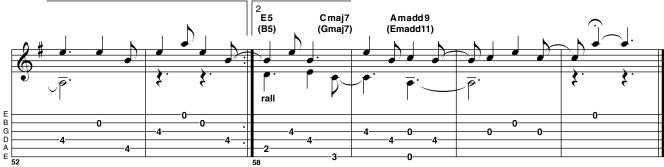




#### SECTION 1 KORA TEXTURES ... CONTINUED

#### CD TRACK CD-ROM





#### SECTION 2 ACCOMPANIMENT IDEAS - BREAKING AWAY FROM CHORD SHAPES

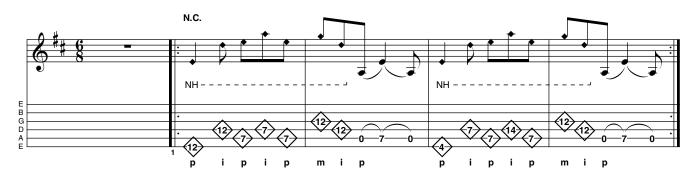
**CDTRACK CD-ROM** 

Natural harmonics feature in many of these examples as Antonio demonstrates how you can find different textures for your accompaniment playing. Aim to be as light as possible as you jump between 12th and 7th

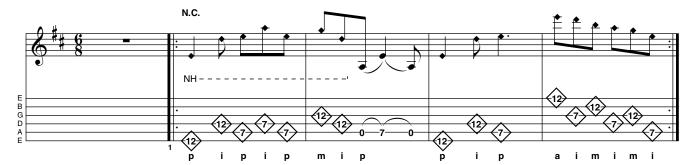
fret harmonics so the rhythm doesn't become clunky. As ever with Antonio's playing, the groove is key – so as you move through these examples be sure to start slowly, keeping to a solid pulse.

#### **EXAMPLE 1 HARMONIC TEXTURE**

#### CD TRACK CD-ROM



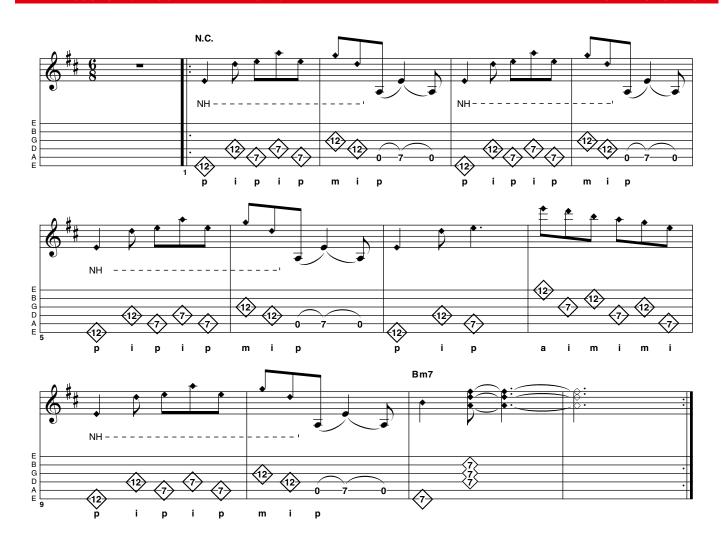
#### **EXAMPLE 2 VARIATION** CD TRACK CD-ROM



## ANTONIO FORCIONE PT1 VIDEO MASTERCLASS

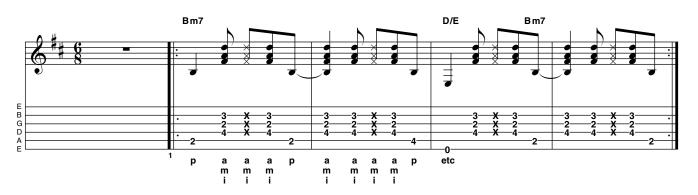
#### **EXAMPLE 3 BUILDING IT TOGETHER WITH ENDING**

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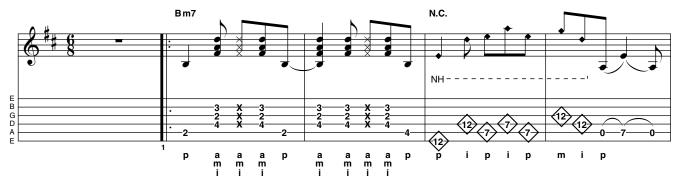
#### EXAMPLE 4 Bm7 GROOVE

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#### EXAMPLE 5 Bm7 GROOVE WITH HARMONICS TEXTURE

CD TRACK CD-ROM

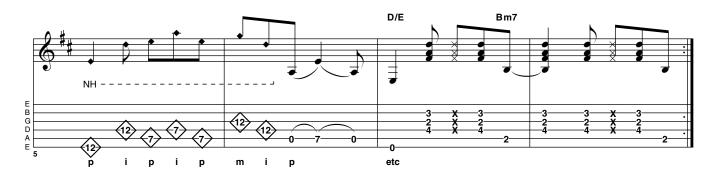






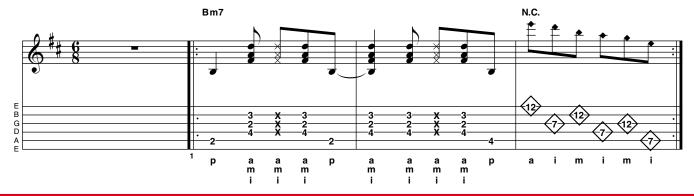
#### EXAMPLE 5 Bm7 GROOVE WITH HARMONICS TEXTURE ... CONTINUED

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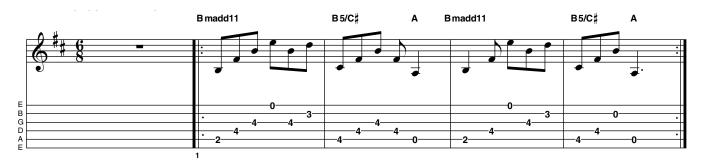
#### **EXAMPLE 6 Bm7 GROOVE WITH HARMONICS VARIATION**

#### CD TRACK CD-ROM



#### **EXAMPLE 7 Bm7 GROOVE VARIATION**

#### CDTRACK CD-ROM



#### **SECTION 3 IMPROVISATION APPROACHES**

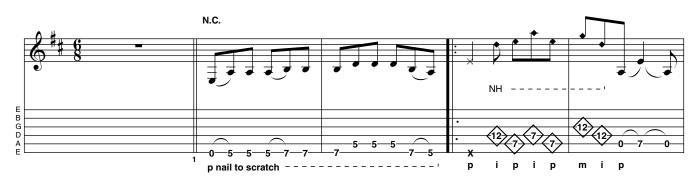
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Fear not – Antonio doesn't have long fingernails so you don't need much nail on your thumb at all to generate his wonderful scratched-bass licks. Have a look and listen at how Antonio uses accents and palm muting

throughout these examples to emphasise certain rhythmic features: the feel and groove of his improvisations is just as important as the actual notes he plays.

#### **EXAMPLE 1 HARMONICS WITH SCRATCH**

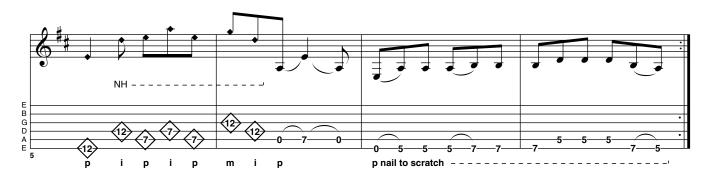
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## ANTONIO FORCIONE PT1 VIDEO MASTERCLASS

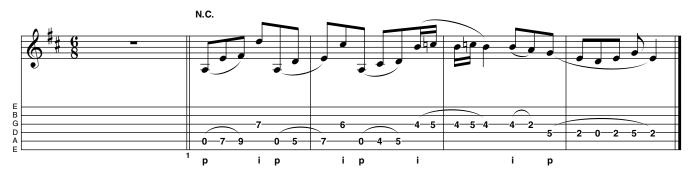
#### **EXAMPLE 1 HARMONICS WITH SCRATCH ... CONTINUED**

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#### **EXAMPLE 2 FINGERSTYLE FILL**

#### CD TRACK CD-ROM



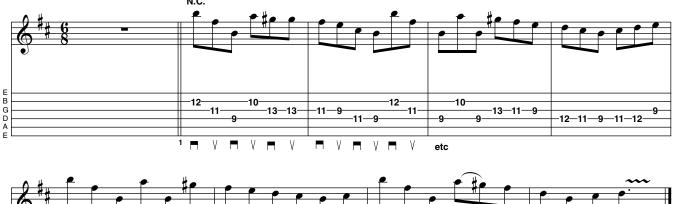
#### **EXAMPLE 3 PLECTRUM FILL ONE**

#### CD TRACK CD-ROM



#### EXAMPLE 4 PLECTRUM FILL TWO

#### CD TRACK CD-ROM



# JS Bach Aria from Goldberg Variations BMV 988



Returning once again to the master, Bridget Mermikides explores a beautiful Aria written for harpsichord and featuring a heavily-ornamented melody over a bassline voice.

ABILITY RATING Advanced Will improve your... Info Key G Tempo 44bpm CD TRACKS 54-55 ✓ Baroque ornamentation ✓ Two-part playing ✓ Melodic phrasing

his month we return to a work by the timeless genius Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), a composer whose technical and expressive mastery continues to awe and inspire countless musicians in many styles. It's nearly impossible to overstate Bach's contribution to Western music, nor the technical achievement and profound beauty in his output of over 1,000 works. It's an enduring legacy, which some argue represents one of the pinnacles of artistic achievement; so much so that when it was suggested that some of his music be included in the Voyager space probe as proof of human intelligence to extra terrestrial beings who might find it, a NASA staff member objected as "it would just be showing off".

Although we have tackled several of his works in this series (GT188, GT196, GT205, GT216, GT221, GT230, GT238, GT248 and



GT255), we could do one a month for another century with no loss of quality. Here, we look at his divine Goldberg Variations BWV 988, a work written for harpsichord and (unusually for Bach published in his lifetime) in 1741. It is in variation form, a musical structure with a main theme followed by series of (in this case 30) variations of its harmonic and/or motivic content (and in this case the bassline). Here I've arranged the beautiful opening theme, Aria, which features a stunning and heavilyornamented melody over a bassline voice.

#### IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO OVERSTATE BACH'S **CONTRIBUTION TO WESTERN** MUSIC, NOR THE PROFOUND **BEAUTY IN HIS OUTPUT OF** OVER 1000 WORKS

This outlines a wonderful harmonic sequence (which the variations follow), but the two voices makes this more of a conversation between the melody and bassline melodies that works both 'vertically' (as chords) and horizontally (as independent melodies) -Bach being the supreme master of such counterpoint. Standard chord notation is only partially helpful (and can be a bit overly complex) as there are often only two notes at a time and the bassline is very active, rather than how a chord sequence is often treated in popular music. Nonetheless, it's very useful (particularly in appreciation, structure and memorisation) to understand the key areas through the work.

It's also important to note that this is an excellent example of Baroque ornamentation whereby a written melody is elaborated often quite freely and at the expressive whim of the performer – using a set of 'ornaments'. These are devices that elaborate a basic

skeletal melody. Sometimes - as in this case these were written (by symbol or explicitly) into the score, other times a performer knowledgeable in the style would be expected to employ them in performance, usually in an increasingly florid manner once the theme has been established. Either way the performer has an opportunity to show creativity, spontaneity and individualism in their ornamentation.

We don't have space here to discuss all the exotic turns, appoggiatura, acciaccatura, trills, schleifers and so on, but this piece makes extended use of one known as the mordent, more specifically the lower mordent. This ornament, indicated by the symbol on beat 3 of bar 1, instructs a rapid (and usually legato) alternation of the written note with the scale note below. So, in this case, the A melody note is played followed by a G (the scale note below) and back to the 'skeletal' A. Note that although these ornaments were not always literally written out (the symbol would suffice and allow freedom of rhythmic interpretation), the tab shows how these notes can be found on the guitar. In all but one case this are slurs on the same string, but in the 3rd beat of bar 35, the mordent is achieved by crossing the first and second strings.

**NEXT MONTH** Bridget arranges Alman, by Tudor-era composer Robert Johnson

#### **TECHNIQUE FOCUS** Fretting hand hammers (slurs).

Many students find that the fourth finger feels weak when hammering so it is worth focusing on it. Try this: line up the four fingers on the sixth string on the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th frets. Make sure the fingers are arched on their tips and evenly spaced. Now lift the fourth finger off the string, moving only the knuckle joint and do not alter the curve of the finger. Slowly lower it back onto the string keeping the curve intact. Repeat the movement with a little more speed towards the string until the hammered note (D) sounds. Now try the same movement but going from second to fourth and first to fourth fingers. Notice if tension creeps into your forearm and try to relax it.



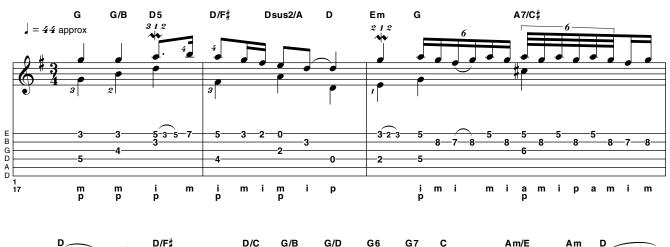
TRACK RECORD Glenn Gould's meditative 1955 and 1981 piano recordings are classic interpretations (Bach: Goldberg Variations Sony 1956, Glenn Gould Bach Vol 1 EMI 1981), but try Angela Hewitt's informed piano performance (Hyperion 2000), Murray Perahia's intimate interpretation (Sony 2000) and a version on the original instrument of harpsichord, such as by the virtuoso Wanda Landowska (EMI 1988)

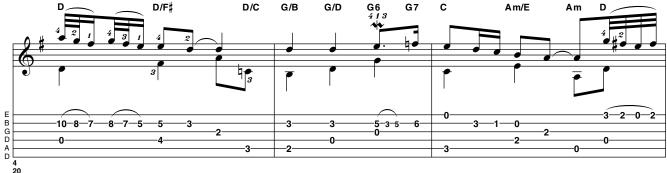
## ARIA, GOLDBERG VARIATIONS (JS BACH

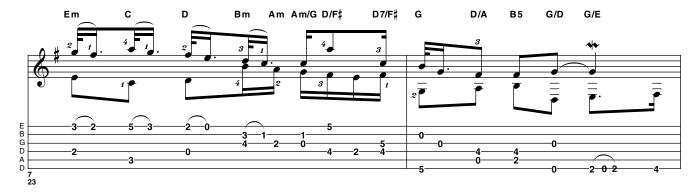
PLAYING TIPS CD TRACK 55

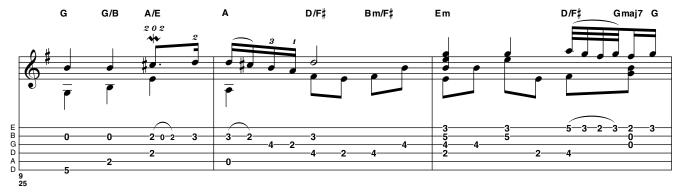
[Bars 1-8] Don't forget to tune your sixth string from E to D. Place a two-string barre on the fifth and sixth strings 3rd fret at the beginning to set you up for beat 3. The inverted mordent is indicated in the notation by the squiggle with a vertical line through it. These will usually be played as a single fretting-hand slur or legato. The fretting hand fingering is indicated as 3-1-2 – I like to switch the finger here, pulling off with the third and hammering with the second so that next note B is reached more easily with the fourth finger. In bar 3 all three beats are 'written out'

ornamentations. These can be rhythmically challenging so practise them to a metronome to ensure that the bass notes are correctly placed. The notated picking hand fingering will help deal with the string changes; these are my suggestions based on my personal preference so find what works for you in order to keep the lines fluent. For crisp, clear slurs in bar 4 make sure the fretting-hand fingers are planted simultaneously on the string beforehand. Watch out for the rhythm in bar 7 – listen to the recording if unsure how it should sound.









#### PLAYING TIPS CD TRACK 55

[Bars 9-16] The top of page 2 is a little easier to navigate so keep a nice steady pulse. In bar 11 keep your fretting hand's second finger planted on the high G right up until the tricky slur on beat 3. I find it helps the slur enormously to have the second finger already in place. Notice the fingering on beat one of bar

13. I don't involve the third finger here but find it easier to use the first finger on the G and the F#. Continue to follow the fretting-hand fingering and watch out for the rhythm at the end of bars 13 and 14. There's some quite tricky stuff here but you know all about taking it slowly, bit by bit, don't you?



PLAYING TIPS CD TRACK 55

[Bars 33-40] Bar 33 has written ornamentation and is rhythmically complex. Map out and be clear where the half beats occur then use a slow metronome to understand exactly how the notes fit in. The group of sextuplets is slightly faster than the other demi-semi quavers (32nd notes) and is basically a written

out trill. This bar contains cross-string over ringing stuff so keep the fretting hand on its fingertips to allow the resonances to happen. The rest of this page is much easier to understand but do refer to the recording if unsure and learn each bar carefully with attention to the fretting-hand fingering at all times.



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# LEARNING ZONE

Lessons from the world's greatest teachers and schools...

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ractising guitar is not a 'one size fits all' pursuit. One hour a day, divided up into four 15-minute segments of warm-up exercises, scale, arpeggio, chord practice, repertoire and improvisation is not going to work for everyone. This scenario, while logical and balanced, assumes every guitarist wants the same results. They don't, as we're all different. If you're a classical guitarist, improvisation may not factor into your playing. If you're a songwriter, scale practice could fall away in order to extend your time improvising with chord progressions and melodies. If you're dead set on soloing over Giant Step changes, broad repertoire study won't factor large; you're digging down deep into one piece's slalom of chord changes.

Practising is a hot topic with many; we get a lot of correspondence about it and how best to invest your time.

Our usual reply is; begin with the end in mind. Where do you want to go with your playing? When you're starting out, 'Getting good' is a typical reply as you don't know what you require yet.

With a little more playing experience, issues such as 'Playing

nice licks over a Minor blues', 'nailing the intro to Sweet Child O' Mine', 'soloing with the Mixolydian mode' and 'improving fretting-hand finger independence for better legato' become realised. With specifics like these, you're then better focused. Specific requirements are hugely useful if receiving guitar tuition, as your tutor will have your issues and their own observations to drive the lessons. Furthermore, your musical savvy will enhance your engagement with GT; sure it's great to peruse each issue and tackle what looks interesting, but if your observations are fuelled by specifics too (nailing that mode,

improving fretting-hand legato, etc)
you'll find yourself much more fulfilled.
As GT is crammed with so much great
music, across many styles and various
ability levels, developing and

maintaining a filtering process based on 'interest' and 'benefit' is imperative to producing noticeable results. Enjoy the issue!



# IN LESSONS GT#276





In this challenging lesson Shaun Baxter introduces speedy sequenced lines built around CAGED shapes in A Dominant Pentatonic.



# 30-Minute Lickbag





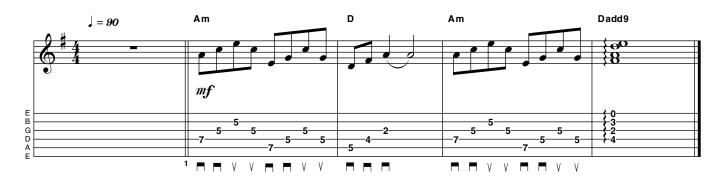
**Pat Heath** of BIMM Brighton brings you yet another varied selection of fresh licks to learn at easy, intermediate and advanced levels.



#### EASY LICKS EXAMPLE 1 COLDPLAY

CD TRACK 56

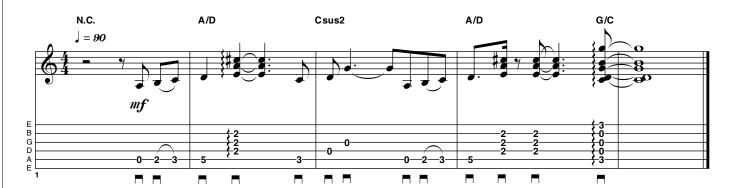
Play this example with steady up and down directional picking with the kind of clean Telecaster tone that Jonny Buckland enjoys. Perhaps add judicious delay and a little chorus. You could arppeggiate this kind of idea over any open chords to give a thick, orchestrated sound.



#### EASY LICKS EXAMPLE 2 PETER GREEN

CD TRACK 57

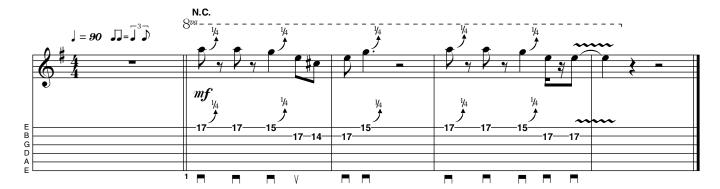
A slow and controlled approach is required to make this chordal pattern feel right to the listener. Green really knew how to milk emotion out of even the simplest piece, so use plenty of dynamic touches to vary the velocity between the ascending notes and the chords and give it all the feel you've got!



#### INTERMEDIATE LICKS EXAMPLE 3 ALBERT KING

CDTRACK 58

This cheeky blues lick will fit nicely around any Em or E7 chord due to its ambiguous Major/Minor nature. Short and sharp staccato notes are required to capture the groove in the lick, and a well-placed vibrato at the end for a bluesy finish. Try it in other keys and change a note here or there to make it your own!

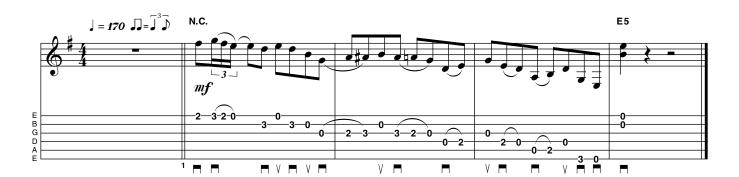


### 30-MINUTE LICKBAG **II LEARNING ZONE**

#### INTERMEDIATE LICKS EXAMPLE 4 REB BEACH

CD TRACK 59

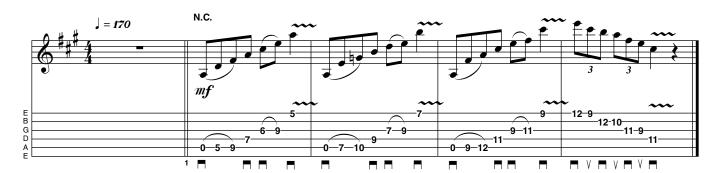
This open-string blues rock example is actually recorded by mic'ing up an electric guitar as well as an amp and the tracks blended together. Plenty of chorus is needed to create the Winger and Whitesnake guitarist's thick-layered sound. Use hammer-ons and pull-offs throughout.



#### ADVANCED LICKS EXAMPLE 5 ERIC JOHNSON

CD TRACK 60

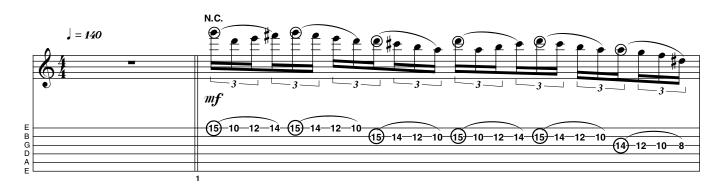
These ascending arpeggios require a mixture of picking and hammer-ons to outline a moving chord progression. Use a quick and fluid vibrato on each top note to capture a Cliffs Of Dover type feel in the part. Then check out Ronan's lesson on Eric's bluesier side on page 62.

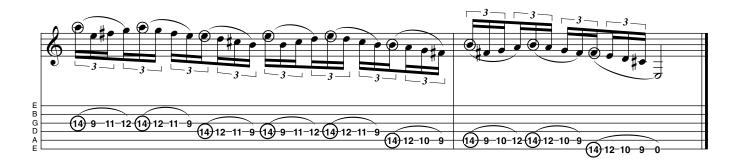


#### ADVANCED LICKS EXAMPLE 6 EDDIE VAN HALEN

CD TRACK 61

Tap the high notes in this lick to create a four-note grouping while phrasing in triplets with the fretting hand, to get the typical Eddie-style solo feeling. Practise slowly to a metronome and speed up gradually. Tonewise, go for a fat bridge pickup tone with minimal front-end fizz but maximum grunt!



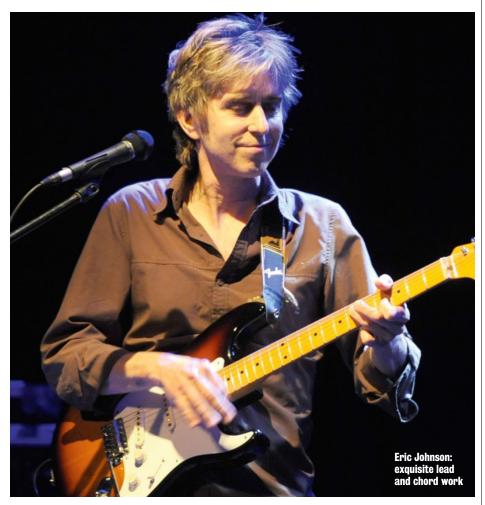


# **Eric Johnson**





Join **Ronan McCullagh** this month as explores the meticulous precision of Texan rock and blues guitarist, Eric Johnson.



#### ABILITY RATING

🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘 Moderate/Advanced

Info **Key:** Various **Tempo:** Various **CD:** TRACKS 62-65

#### Will improve your

- ✓ Blues-rock vocabulary
- ✓ Odd note groupings
- ✓ Picking styles

ric Johnson (born August 17, 1954) is yet another virtuoso guitarist to have come out of Texas. Born into a musical family Eric started his journey on the piano after his father sent him and his sisters to lessons. At age 11 he picked up a guitar and began transferring his piano knowledge to his new love, which explains those rich chord voicings for which he's famously known.

From his beginnings with The Electromagnets, through to his solo albums and session work with artists such as Cat Stevens, Christopher Cross and Carole King, Eric has constantly delivered authenticity within the boundaries of rock and blues, yet he's never lacking in exploration; edging those boundaries further forward with every record. It should be no news to regular readers that Eric has the most meticulous attention to detail and tone. He professes to be able to hear the sweet spot of a battery's life in a Tube Screamer, showing that he completely gets the importance of tone and its role. There's definitely an argument for the notion that the actual delivery of music should take high priority, and therein lies the reason for this

obsessive attitude towards tone - remember this beautiful logic when admonishing yourself for tweaking your amp and pedals into the small hours when every other sane person is sleeping!

Johnson is never shy to show his influences. Ranging from Stevie Ray Vaughan, Jimi Hendrix and Mike Bloomfield through to Wes Montgomery and Chet Atkins, Eric manages to have his own stamp on each one of these dialects as he lets this vocabulary stew in his expansive imagination. He frequently mentions that he likes to practise freedom within his playing above anything else.

His soloing style leans heavily on Pentatonic and classic rock and blues but with a mixed bag of extras that can be dropped in at will, such as wide intervallic ideas, chords with beautiful voicing leading, or odd rhythmic groupings. You might notice that he

#### **66** ERIC'S LEAD PLAYING IS EXEMPLARY AND HIS RHYTHM FULL OF BEAUTY "

will frequently ascend with one of these wide intervallic ideas and descend with a Pentatonic scale arranged in odd groupings in a cannoning fashion.

Although Johnson's soloing is exemplary - some would say flawless - his rhythm style is also full of beauty, aided no doubt by viewing chord construction from a pianistic point of view; his beautiful 'voice leading' gives his chord changes their own melody, as well as musical balance and direction. His overall touch is dynamic and purposeful, seamlessly switching between pick, hybrid or a fingerstyle approach in which he uses the full range of what the guitar has to offer.

Let's get stuck in and try it out...

**NEXT MONTH** Ronan explores the blues side of Traffic's hugely talented Steve Winwood





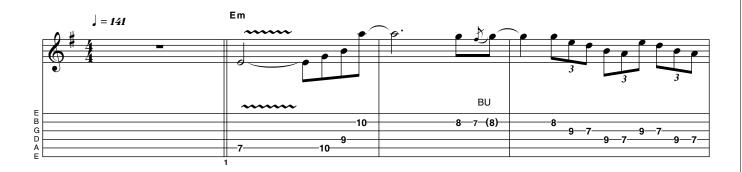
TRACK RECORD Two early studio albums from Eric Johnson, Tones (1986) and Ah Via Musicom (1990), both demonstrate his masterful lead, impressive rhythm playing and awe-inspiring solos in a variety of rock, blues, jazz and country styles - he won a Grammy for Ah Via Musicom's Cliffs Of Dover. For more Cream-influenced blues-rock try the excellent Live And Beyond by his side project, Alien Love Child.

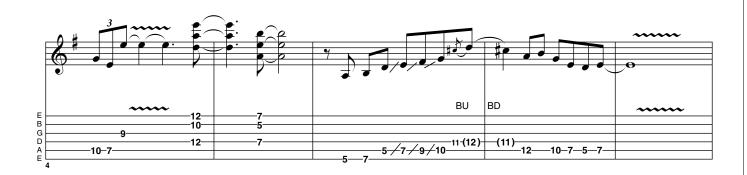
EXAMPLE 1 SOLO 1 CD TRACK 62

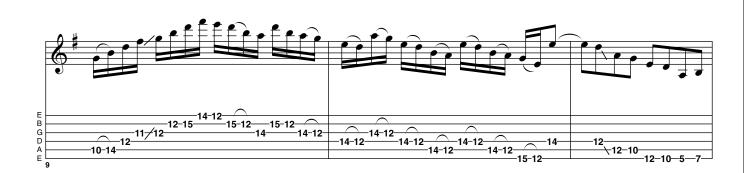
[Bars 1-5] We start off with a phrase that demonstrates Eric's wider intervallic ascending lines as we use a string skip to jump from the 5th of the key to the 11th. We then pick the 8th fret (G) and immediately go one semitone down to the 7th fret, bending that pitch back up a half step. The descending line in triplets uses a brief moment of odd grouping as we descend five notes of the E Minor Pentatonic before climbing to start the next cannon. Bar 5 uses Hendrix-like voicings to push out colours within the basic tonality of E Minor.

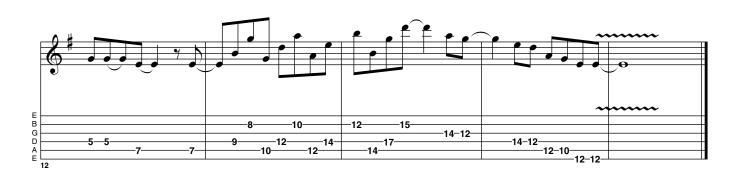
[Bars 6-12] He we are using some slides and that semitone bend again to spice up our E Minor Pentatonic before we enter a longer 16th-note based run. This ascends using a Minor 9 based arpeggio before descending through a straight Minor Pentatonic in groupings of six (a Johnson trademark) while still using a 16th-note rhythmic value.

[Bars 13-16] Here we have that wider intervallic concept again that is basically drawing on the harmonised Minor Pentatonic as it ascends. You can hear Joe Bonamassa's Eric Johnson influence here.









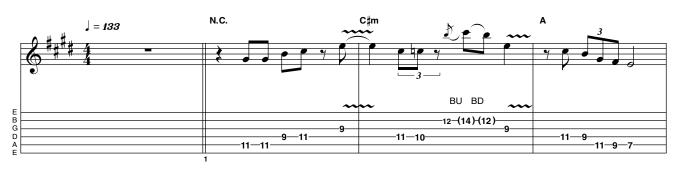
EXAMPLE 2 SOLO 2 CD TRACK 64

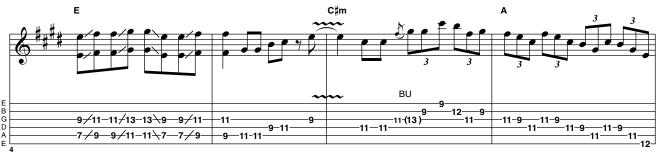
[Bar 1] Here we have a very SRV-inspired phrase built around the C# Minor Pentatonic (C#-E-F#-G#-B) so think about the vibrato that you will want to use. We then weave into the Hendrix-like octaves sliding from one to the next. [Bars 5-7] We return to our opening phrase again but follow it up with a descending Minor Pentatonic line that uses various groupings in the descent. We start with three, then move to four, then five and finally back to four. [Bars 8-9] An Emaj9 arpeggio is making an appearance here then we descend

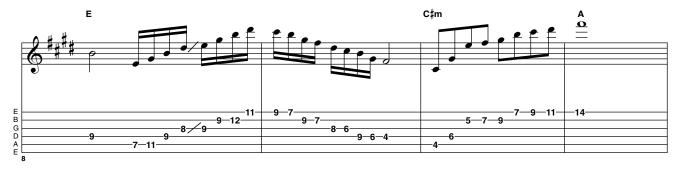
with a G#minor Pentatonic (G# B C# D# F#) figure (shape 2).

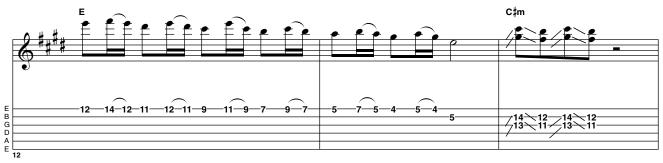
[Bars 10-3] It's back to the wide interval concept again here but this time we descend with a Hendrix-like single-note line that descends using hammer-ons and pull offs (Johnson occasionally does Hendrix tribute tours).

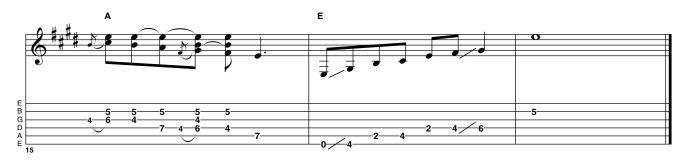
[Bars 14-17] Keeping with that Hendrix-inspired vibe here we have a sliding double-stop figure that takes us into those Little Wing type fills that form around Major chord voicings. Let these lines ring through each other.











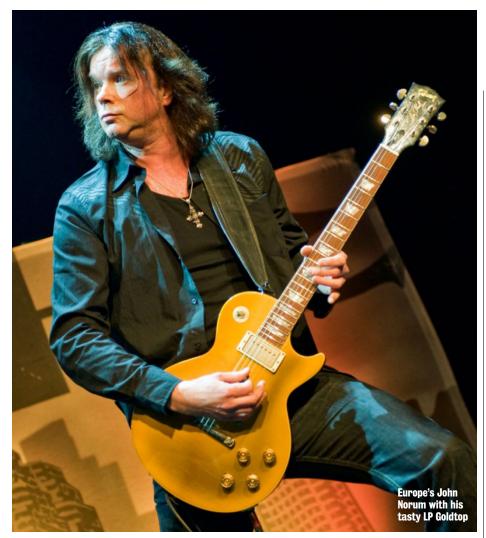


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# **Europe**



**CD:** TRACKS 66-68

Let your hair loose with **Martin Cooper** as he checks out the sound of Swedish soft-metal rockers Europe and guitarist John Norum.



✓ General timing

urope was formed in Upplands Vasby, Sweden in 1979, and initially went by the name Force, before changing their name to Europe after singer Joey Tempest heard Deep Purple's Made In Europe live album. Founding members were Tempest and guitar player John Norum, who are both still in the band today, with the current and

long-serving line-up being completed by bass

player John Leven, keyboard player Mic Michaeli and drummer Ian Haugland.

Europe gained worldwide success in 1986 after they had been approached by Epic Records to sign a deal, and the album The Final Countdown was released, with Journey and Mr Big producer Kevin Elson at the helm. However, not everyone was happy even among the success, and guitarist Norum left in November of the same year after deciding that he wasn't a fan of the keyboard-driven sound that the band was moving towards. Norum had been influenced by the likes of Gary Moore and the impression that the late guitarist left on the Swedish rocker can be heard in his lead and rhythm playing throughout his time with Europe. Norum was



replaced by fellow Swede Kee Marcello and the band continued to have successs for the next couple of years, albeit not on the same scale as in 1986.

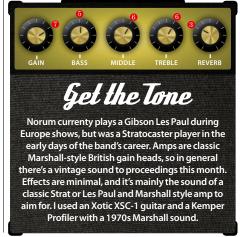
Europe took a break in the late 90s and were subsequently dropped by Epic Records. They reunited in 1999 to play a millennium show on New Year's Eve with both Norum and Marcello playing guitar. In 2003 they reunited properly, and with Norum as the sole guitarist gained a new lease of life with a heavier sound. They continue to record and tour regularly, recently playing to sold-out venues in celebration of the 30th anniversary of The Final Countdown album, and we hear

#### **44** JOHN NORUM **GENERALLY LEANS** TOWARDS THE CLASSIC 60S AND 70S BLUES-ROCK STYLE AND TONE "

new material is also in the pipeline.

The track this month draws mainly from the early John Norum era and is a rock track driven by some classic riffs, rhythms and lead phrases. Norum's influences also cover the likes of Michael Schenker, and he generally leans towards the classic blues-rock style and tone of the 60s and 70s, albeit with some more gain these days. It's in the key of E minor (E-F#-G-A-B-C-D) although there is an A Major chord being played by the keyboards which includes a C# note as its 3rd. The solo is built around classic blues-rock E Minor Pentatonic (E-G-A-B-D) phrases, as well as the Natural Minor scale.

**NEXT MONTH** Martin looks at the Knopfler brothers' rhythm and soloing in **Dire Straits** 



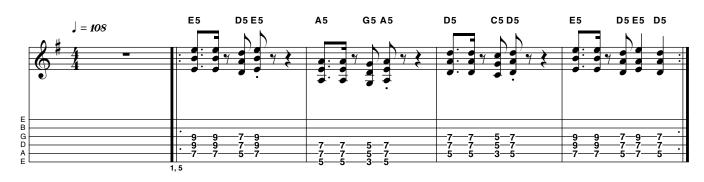


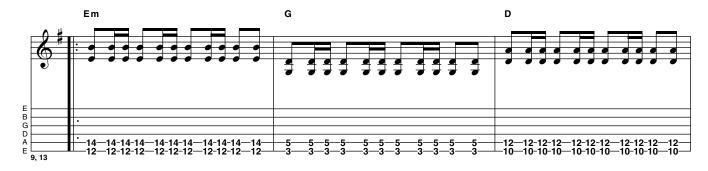
**TRACK RECORD** Classic album The Final Countdown includes the title track, Rock The Night and Carrie, while follow-up Out Of This World (1989) features Superstitious, with a stunning technical and melodic solo from Kee Marcello. The most recent studio album is War Of Kings (2015) and the band has also released a 30th-anniversary live album, which features all of The Final Countdown album, plus other hits.

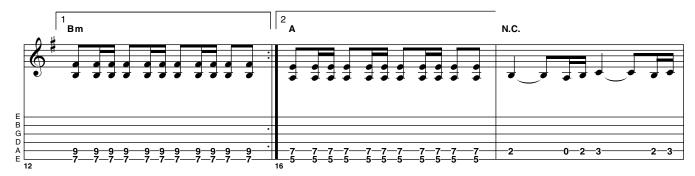
EXAMPLE RHYTHM CD TRACK 67

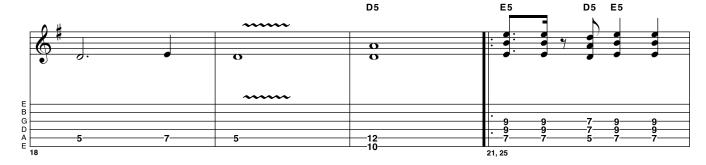
Aim to ensure there isn't any unwanted string noise in the beginning and ending sections of the rhythm guitar part as you move across the neck for the chord changes. Soften the attack of the fretting hand and mute with the

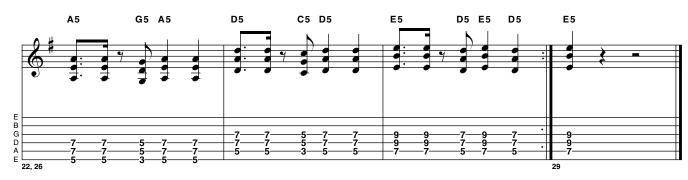
picking hand as you do this. Bars 9-16 feature some palm muting to keep the notes' clipped feel; so aim to achieve the galloping sound, while muting with your picking hand's palm.





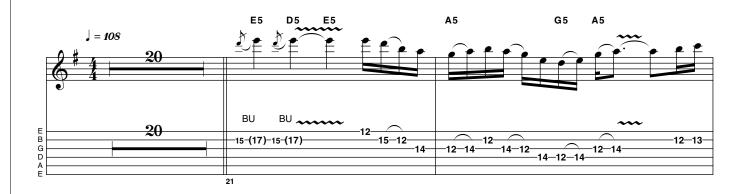


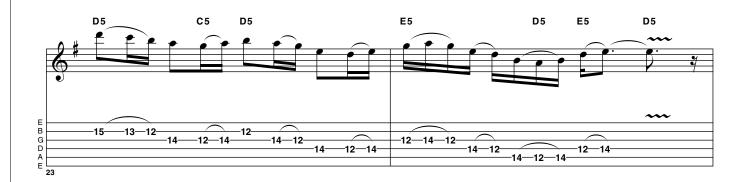


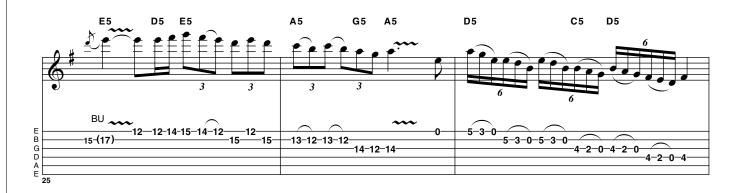


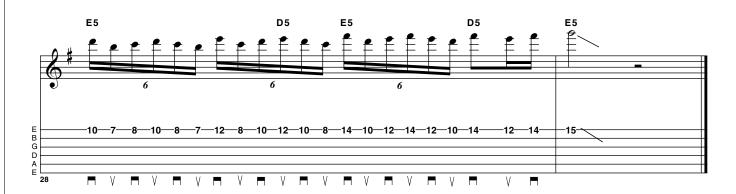
EXAMPLE **SOLO CD TRACK 67** 

The lead break has both fast legato and alternate picked phrases, so make sure these are played with good timing and accuracy. Above all, don't rush!









# Discover Classic Guitars

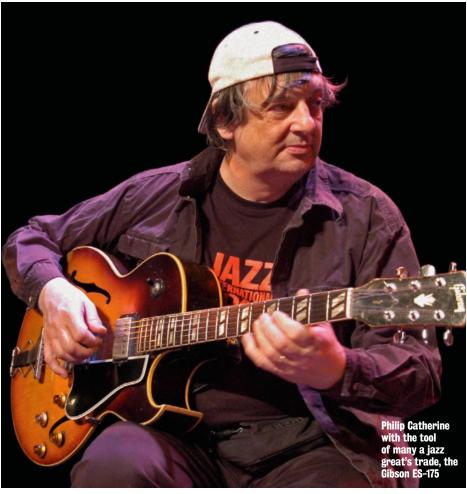
Every issue, Guitarist brings you the best gear, features, tuition and interviews to fuel your passion for guitar



# Philip Catherine



This month **John Wheatcroft** marvels at the beautiful, elegant playing of a Belgian jazz master, the wonderful Philip Catherine.



#### ABILITY RATING

🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘 🕽 Moderate/Advanced

Info **Key:** Various **Tempo:** Various **CD:** TRACKS 69-78 Will improve your...

- ✓ Picking articulation and fluency ✓ Ability to 'make the changes'
- ✓ Jazz vocabulary

hilip Catherine is one of Europe's finest jazz guitar players, with a phenomenal resume and the well-earned respect of both peers and music lovers the world over. Born in London but raised in Brussels. Belgium, Catherine's father was a classical violinist for the London Philharmonic and young Philip entered into the family business at the earliest opportunity, studying at the

prestigious Berklee School of Music and turning professional while still in his teens.

Catherine's playing has sophistication and intelligence with a perfect blend of technique and musicality. He is acutely aware of the language and vocabulary of jazz and he creates his phrases and improvisations with a vitality and presence that always sounds fresh, exciting and original while maintaining idiomatic awareness and authenticity. Philip's playing is held in such high esteem by players of all generations. I recently saw the pair of young and super-talented French guitarists Antoine Boyer and Noé Reine performing one of Catherine's compositions as a tribute. These two are staggeringly good, so I'd suggest you check them out too.

What follows is a collection of 10 short musical examples typical of the type of things that Philip might play in an improvised scenario against many of the most typical harmonic progressions found in jazz. As you might expect, with a career as long and varied this is just the tip of the iceberg. I'd suggest that you check out his chord-melody playing, his acoustic guitar work and at times he's been known to kick on his Rat distortion pedal, flip to the bridge pickup and rock out. What would Stephane Grappelli say about this? Well, I'm sure he'd love it.

As usual, once you've learnt these phrases as written then it's your turn to transform them beyond all recognition. Literally throw anything you've got at them. Try turning Minor into Major, 16th notes into triplets, phrases in C into new phrases in F. There are

#### I LIKE MY SOLOS TO SOUND LIKE A COMPOSED **MELODY. I'M NOT ALWAYS** SUCCEEDING, BUT THAT'S MY GOAL. IT'S LIKE AN ETERNAL COMPOSING **PROCESS** Philip Catherine

no rules and no limits other than where your imagination might take you. In terms of expanding your vocabulary this is some of the most valuable work and best uses of time that you can ever have with the guitar in your hands. Maybe just take one example and stick with this for an entire workout session, auditioning ideas while expanding your possibilities at the same time. Most importantly, don't forget to have fun. It's surely called playing for a reason.

**NEXT MONTH** John assesses the playing of American jazz legend **Mundell Lowe** 





TRACK RECORD Philip's releases are as consistent as they are prolific. To get you started, we'd suggest his solo albums September Sky (1988, Fever) and Blue Prince (2000, Dreyfus). His most recent release, The String Project — Live with the Orchestre Royal de Chambre de Wallonie (2015, ACT) features some beautiful playing and stunning arrangements and, as you'd expect, definitely gets the thumbs up.

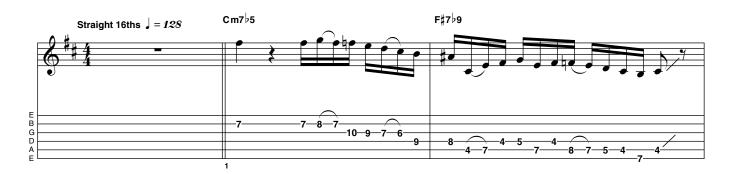
### PHILIP CATHERINE **II LEARNING ZONE**

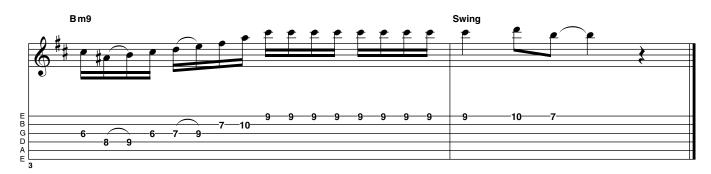
#### EXAMPLE 1 FAST MINOR II-V-I LINE IN B MINOR

#### **CDTRACK 69**

We begin with some classic jazz vocabulary set against a minor II-V-I in the key of B Minor, giving us C#m7,5, F#7 and Bm7 respectively. As is customary with bebop phrasing, the scale and arpeggio-based activity is peppered with

frequent use of chromatic decoration, so be on the lookout for any pair of scale tones situated a tone apart, as the note in the cracks can be used effectively as a chromatic bridging tone.



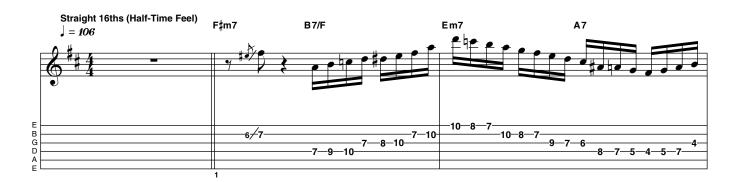


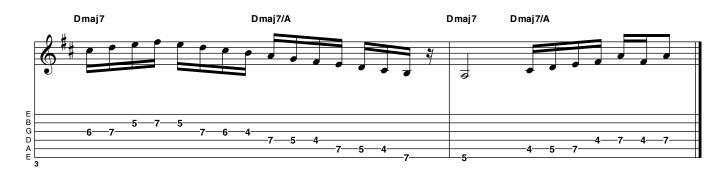
#### EXAMPLE 2 MAJOR III-VI-II-V-I ALTERNATE-PICKED SCALE-BASED LINES

#### CD TRACK 70

Catherine has considerable alternate picking prowess, so while he adds hammer-ons and slurs as an expressive phrasing device when he wishes, he's also capable of playing long unbroken streams of notes with a very

consistent attack and tone. We're really after that consistency here, so work with your metronome and break the line down into bite-size pieces, building up bit by bit over time.

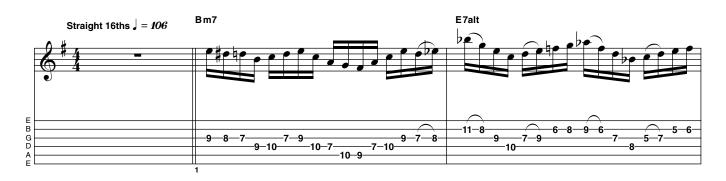


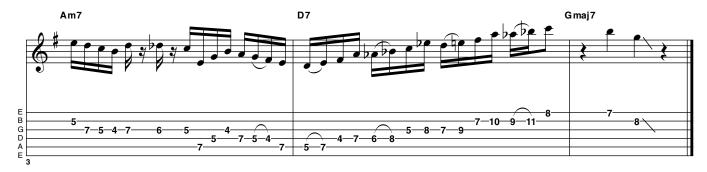


#### EXAMPLE 3 PERPETUAL III-VI-II-V LINES IN G

found in the E Superlocrian or 'Altered' scale (E-F-G-A,-B,-C-D), while against D7 in bar 4 he plays an ascending series of tritone tetrachords, namely Dadd9 (D-E-F#-A) and A,add9 (A,-B,-C-E,). We'll revisit this idea in a further example, so keep your eyes and ears open.

Yet more non-stop phrasing here, although we see more of those slurs and slides we mentioned previously. From a notes perspective, all the interesting stuff takes place over the two Dominant 7th chords that we find in bars 2 and 4. Against E7 Philip chooses to play a line based around both C7 and B,7, both



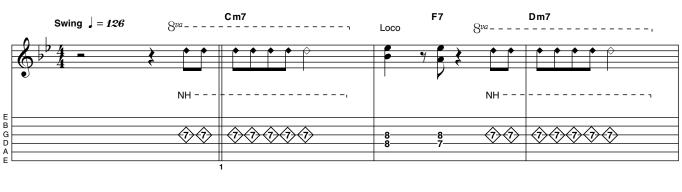


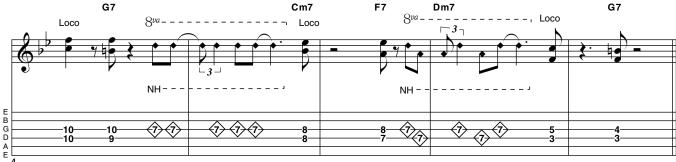
#### EXAMPLE 4 QUESTION AND ANSWER WITH OVERTONES AND DOUBLE-STOPS

CD TRACK 72

If all that head-based theory has left your head spinning, here's a cheeky example that simply bounces between a melodic figure based around natural

harmonics and the 7th fret, and short answering ideas based around small versions of the appropriate chords found in the gaps.





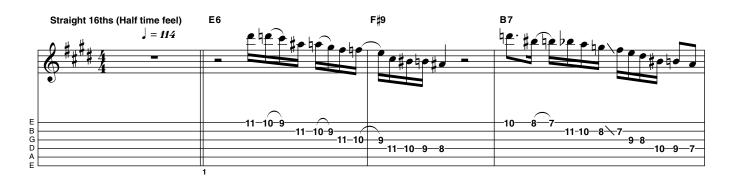
#### PHILIP CATHERINE **II LEARNING ZONE**

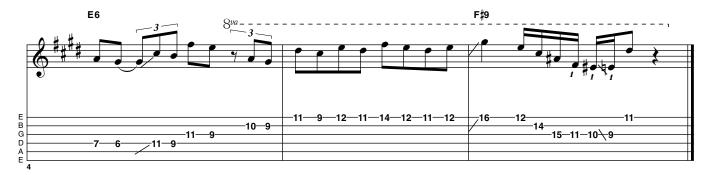
#### **EXAMPLE 5 DJANGO-INSPIRED LINES**

CD TRACK 73

Chromatically-decorated arpeggios are the order of the day here for this Django-inspired collection of associated phrases against a II7-V7-I in the key of E. Perhaps the trickiest part of this example is the double first finger slide in the

final bar, something of a Reinhardt speciality, so make sure you are accurate, bold and co-ordinated at this point as sloppy playing almost never cuts the mustard in jazz.



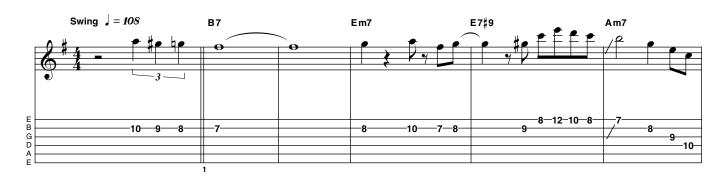


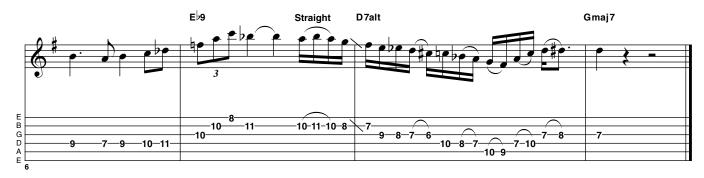
#### EXAMPLE 6 SUSTAINED MELODIC IDEAS BALANCED WITH STRAIGHT SEMIQUAVER PHRASING

CD TRACK 74

Philip is acutely aware of the value of contrasts in his phrasing, so you'll frequently hear a rapid shift from soft to loud, consonant to dissonant and in this case, slow to fast, all executed with expert control and command. The

notes are mainly based around the associated arpeggios, although we do see a chromatically decorated idea coming from the D Phrygian Dominant mode in bar 8 (D-E-F#-G-A-B,-C), the fifth mode of G Harmonic Minor.



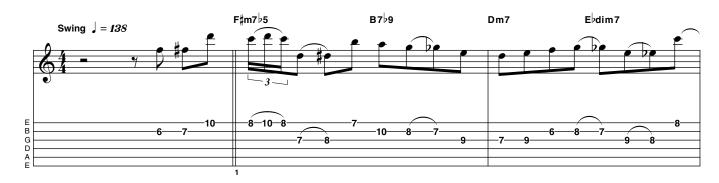


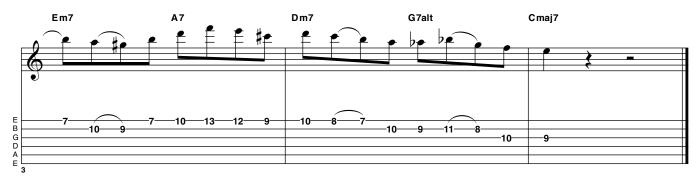
#### **EXAMPLE 7 SHIFTING II-V IDEAS WITH INTERVAL LEAPS AND PULL-OFFS**

CD TRACK 75

The trick to delivering this motific example effectively is in keeping the timing steady. With such a collection of trills, hammers and pulls it is very easy to start to rush. Ideally, we're after a relaxed sense of composure and confidence so

keep things as rhythmically even and steady as you possibly can. Make sure you analyse the explicit connection between the strong melodic tones and the underlying chords and arpeggios.



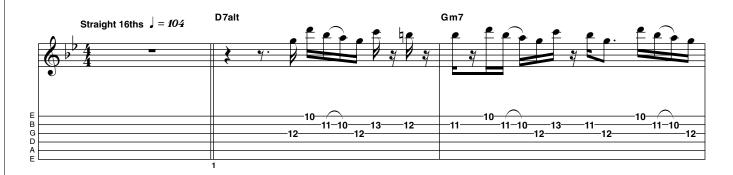


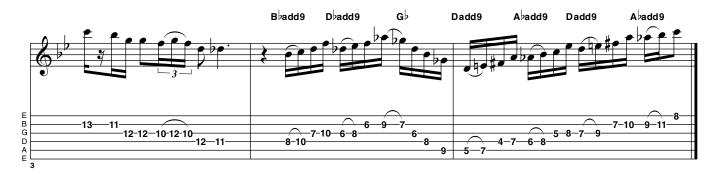
#### EXAMPLE 8 STATIC MOTIFIC IDEAS AND 'COLTRANE' CHANGES OVER ONE CHORD

CDTRACK 76

Things begin rather as we might expect in bars 1 to 3 here, with G Minor melodies played against a G Minor static harmony. Matters become rather more involved in bars 3-5, though, when Philip implies a harmonic series of four-note tetrachord ideas (R-2-3-5), initially following a sequence of  $B_{\mu\nu}$ 

 $D_{\flat}$  and  $G_{\flat}$ , an idea you hear in a number of John Coltrane's compositions and therefore referred to as 'Coltrane' changes, before revisiting that tritone D and  $A_{\flat}$  idea we first saw in Example 3, all against our static G Minor backdrop.





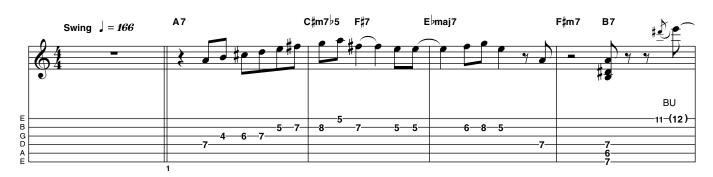
## PHILIP CATHERINE 61 LEARNING ZONE

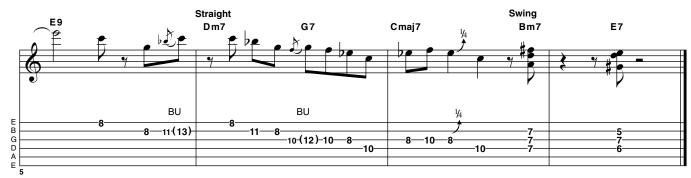
#### **EXAMPLE 9 BLUESY LINES WITH CHORD-FRAGMENT PUNCTUATION**

CDTRACK77

Philip's playing is often bluesy and filled with expression, so here we see how he might approach playing through a series of mostly non-diatonic chords with a sense of melody and feel. He juxtaposes this melodic action with

some well-positioned chord fragments, rather like the way that a big band might arrange for ensemble stabs to answer single-note lines from within the complete ensemble.



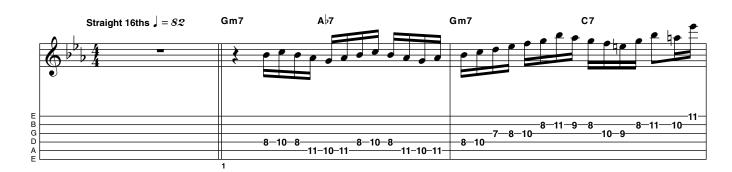


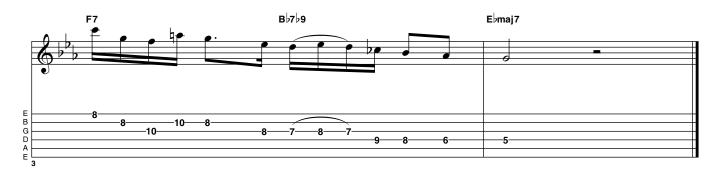
#### **EXAMPLE 10 ALTERNATE PICKED STRAIGHT 16TH LINE OVER SWING FEEL**

CD TRACK 78

We conclude with another perpetual line of 16th notes, played with a straight feel here although juxtaposed against a heavily swung eighth-note rhythm section feel. There is some tricky string crossing to negotiate in bar three,

although the tempo is not too fast so it's likely that Catherine would continue alternating throughout here to maintain a consistent sense of both tone and time feel.





## **Dave Matthews**



He's one of the prime movers in the Americana scene. Stuart Ryan takes you through the quirky playing style of this acoustic superstar.



Moderate

Info Key: D

Tempo: 98bpm **CD:** TRACKS 79-80 Will improve your...

- ✓ Moving bass notes against chords
- ✓ Using chords with open strings
- ✓ Alternate picked acoustic parts

ne of America's most original and quirky singer-songwriters, Dave Matthews is also one its biggest selling. A veritable superstar in the USA The Dave Matthews Band fills stadiums and arenas across the country. Although less known throughout the rest of the world his unique approach to writing acoustic guitar

parts merits wider study and recognition, and so in this lesson we'll examine some key features of his style.

Matthews was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1967 and spent his childhood both there and in the USA. He settled in Charlottesville, Virginia in 1987 and became a fixture on the local music scene writing songs and performing his first solo gigs. He'd been playing guitar since the age of nine, though it was only in his early 20s that writing and performing became a serious proposition. He formed The Dave Matthews Band in 1991: a fascinating mix of vocals, guitar, bass, drums and the unusual combination of saxophone and violin. The latter two instruments,

alongside Matthews's original way of songwriting, contribute to the unique (and often huge) sound of the band.

Although you will occasionally see him on stage with an electric guitar, Matthews's primary writing and performing tool is an acoustic guitar. There are many elements of his playing that serve to make it unique - not least his influences that range from Bob Marley to avant garde pianist Keith Jarrett and many more points in between. His songs often feature strummed chords that are expanded by ringing open strings or tight, picked riffs that may be doubled by the horns or violins. It's worth noting that Matthews has large hands and consequently a large reach, something that often comes into play when he employs wide stretched Andy Summers-esque chords and moving basslines against static chords. We are dealing with acoustic rhythm

#### CHORDS WITH MOVING **BASS, STRUMMED PARTS** WITH OPEN STRINGS AND **DEFTLY PICKED RIFFS ALL** APPEAR IN THIS STUDY ""

guitar here, and while you will find him playing conventional open-chord strumming, he will often combine such ideas with the more off-the-wall riffing or chords that you may not expect.

For our study I've combined several approaches in much the way Matthews does - static chords with a moving bass, strummed parts with open strings and deftly-picked riffs are all features that make their way into this month's study. Some of the alternate picking may come as a surprise but watch him play and you'll see that he is accurate and pretty fast with this when needed!

**NEXT MONTH** Stuart looks at the playing of US country-rock star Emmylou Harris





**TRACK RECORD** There are many Dave Matthews Band albums available, both in the studio and recorded live. In fact, there are so many out there that it can be overwhelming to know where to start. However, try 1996's Crash to hear the sort of playing featured in this lesson; or his 2003 solo album Some Devil. To hear how big the DMB sounds 'in the flesh' check out 2003's Live In Central Park.

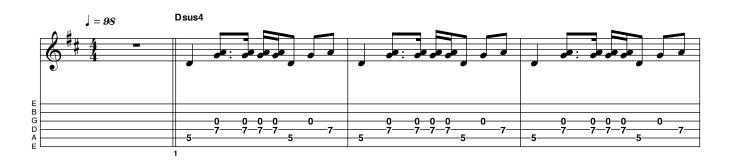
#### DAVE MATTHEWS **II LEARNING ZONE**

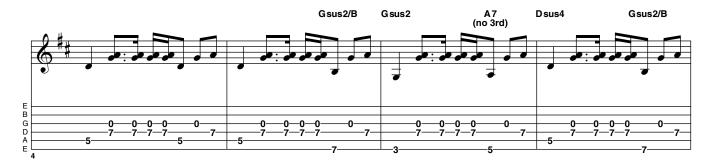
#### EXAMPLE **DAVE MATTHEWS STYLE**

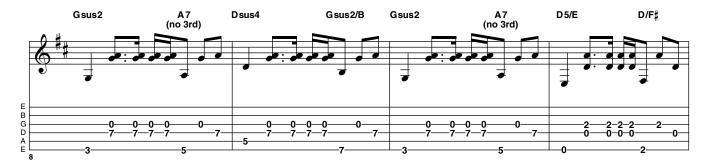
CDTRACK 79

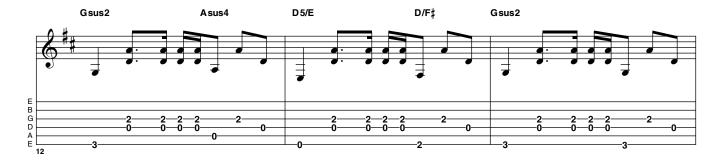
[Bar 1] For this typical Matthews-style intro, keep the picking hand relaxed and use the first finger to hold down the 5th fret of the fifth string and the fourth finger to hold down the 7th fret of the fourth string – this will set you up for the moving the bass notes in the next section.

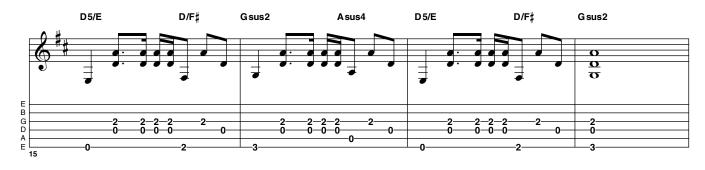
[Bar 5] Moving basslines against a static chord is a very typical Dave Matthews device so use the third finger for the note on the 7th fret of the sixth string and in the next bar I'd suggest the first finger for the 3rd fret and the same finger for the 5th fret.











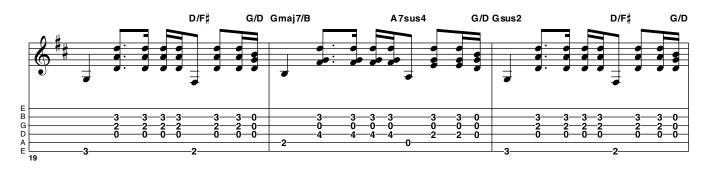
#### **EXAMPLE DAVE MATTHEWS STYLE**

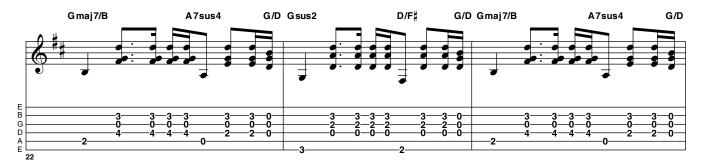
CD TRACK 79

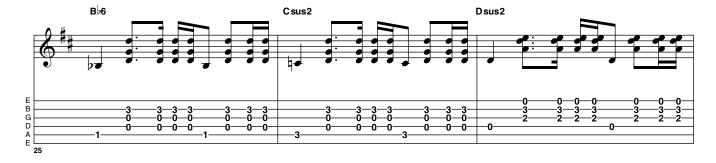
[Bar 11] No stretches to worry about here but really listen to the effect the moving bass notes have against the simple open chord, it's a great way of writing and really gives this sort of riff some momentum.

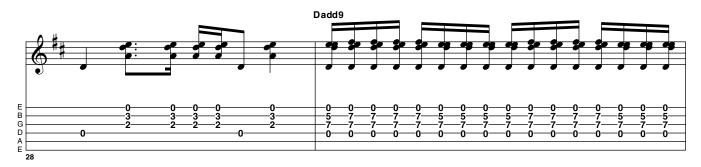
[Bar 20] Matthews uses subtle chord variations to add colour; eg this Gmaj7B instead of a straight Gmaj7 and the A7sus4 in place of an A or A7.

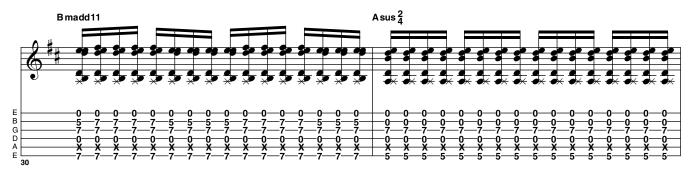
[Bar 25] And another moving bassline idea over the following bars, the  $B_i\delta$  is an unexpected twist harmonically but a common move in his writing. [Bar 29] Big-sounding, open-string chords are another feature of his style, the strumming pattern here being simple but again moving the underlying bass notes against the chord on top to keep things moving really well.









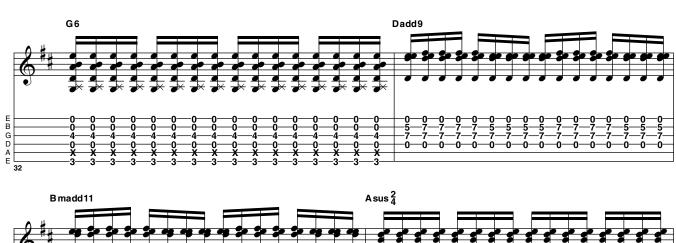


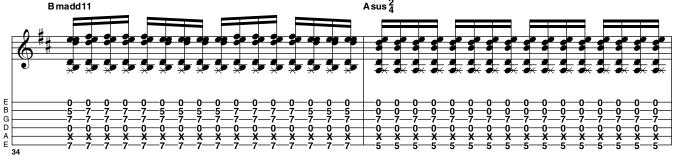
#### EXAMPLE **DAVE MATTHEWS STYLE**

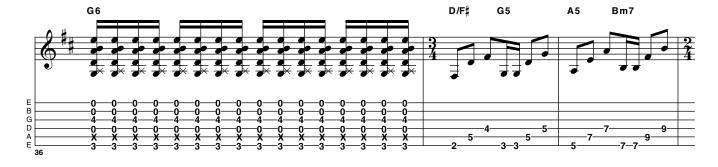
CD TRACK 79

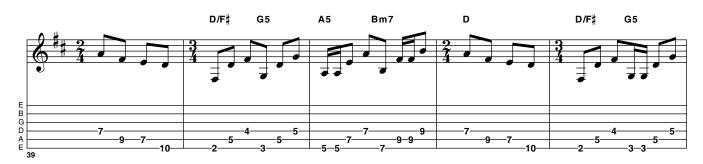
[Bar 31] Matthews will often use these types of chords where he only frets a couple of notes but lets the ringing open strings remain common to each chord and thus fill the sound out - Pete Townshend is another fan of this.

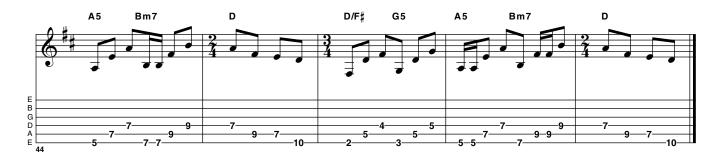
[Bar 37] This final section features the sort of picked riff that is also common within his playing and writing. Watch out for the alternate-picked parts here, as you'll need quite a deft picking hand to get them sounding clear.











# Dominant Pentatonic pt4

## Fast sequences



In this challenging lesson **Shaun Baxter** introduces speedy sequenced lines built around CAGED shapes in A Dominant Pentatonic.

#### O O O O O Advanced Will improve your Info ✓ Dominant Pentatonic knowledge

Key: A (A7) Tempo: 115bpm **CD:** TRACKS 81-83

✓ Playing of fast sequences ✓ Dominant CAGED vocabulary

he Dominant Pentatonic represents five notes that can be extracted from the Mixolydian scale that will allow you to adopt a guitar-friendly, two-notes per-string approach with a sound that is closer to the underlying Dominant 7th chord than the more common Major or Minor Pentatonic:

A7 chord

A-C#-E-G 1 - 3 - 5 - 5

A Dominant Pentatonic

A - B - C# - E - G 1-2-3-5-17

A Major Pentatonic

A-B-C#-E-F#

1-2-3-5-6

**A Minor Pentatonic** 

A - B - C - E - G

1-2-13-5-17

Basically, it's like a dominant 7th arpeggio with an added 2nd note, making it more akin to a 9th arpeggio.

> A-C#-E-G-B **A9** 1 - 3 - 5 - 17 - 9

By taking the traditional two-notes-per-string shapes of A Major Pentatonic scale, and raising each 6th (F#) a semitone higher (keeping it on the same string), so that it becomes a minor 7th (G), we get the five shapes shown in Diagram 1. Note that each one is based around a basic A7 chord shape and fits perfectly within the CAGED system.

All the musical examples in this lesson feature fast sequences using the Dominant Pentatonic scale. Once vou have studied each example, it's important to establish an equivalent approach in each of the other CAGED shapes of the scale. Also, try transferring the same principles to other Pentatonic scales that you know.

To play sequences up to a fast tempo, we will be using a variety of approaches: two, three and four-notes-per-string; legato, fretting-hand tapping; picking-hand-tapping etc. When learning to master such techniques in each shape of a

scale, it's important that you work on various entry and exit points so that you can flow from one idea into another. If working on vocabulary for a particular CAGED shape for A Dominant Pentatonic, start by looking at how you can combine it with your existing Mixolydian and Blues scale vocabulary in that same area.

Generally, your aim should be to build up an arsenal of shapes, licks and lines in each CAGED shape so that you have some flexible friends to draw upon when improvising. This can only be achieved if you work at going beyond just playing each line verbatim. The line merely represents a useful contour or chain of events for you to interpret in a multitude of different ways depending on the musical setting. This means you can practise limiting your approach to just one line, to see how much variation you can extract from it to make it work at any given moment: start it differently; break off half-way through; change the ending; change the rhythm or timing; you could even try playing it backwards.

When improvising, it's far better to have 10 lines that you can interpret in a variety of different ways to suit any musical moment, than to be at the mercy of 500 that are cast in stone. The latter approach reduces you to mentally scrolling through the entire list, frantically hoping to pull one off the shelf that will provide you with the perfect musical answer - hardly the grounds for fluid spontaneity - whereas the former can produce very different-sounding results even though they stemmed from the same reference point.

**NEXT MONTH** Shaun continues helping to hone your skills in his monthly Creative Rock

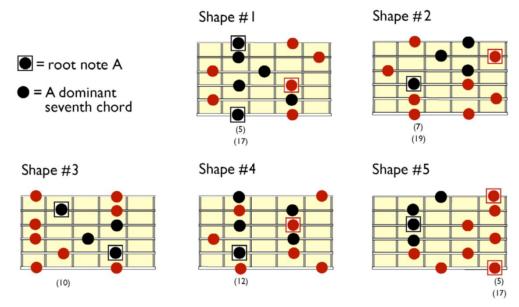




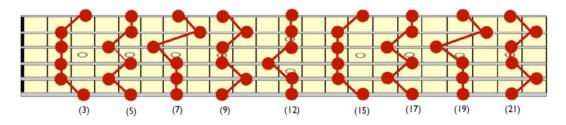
TRACK RECORD Greg Howe is primarily known in guitar circles for the many solo fusion-style albums that feature his smooth Allan Holdsworth-influenced rock style, which also showcase his inventive approach to two-hand tapping to create fast scale and arpeggio sequences reminiscent of the ones used in this lesson. If you haven't heard Greg's playing before, try his first fusion album Introspection (1993).

## DOMINANT PENTATONIC SCALE PT4 61 LEARNING ZONE

#### DIAGRAM 1 A DOMINANT PENTATONIC SCALE SHAPES 1-5



#### DIAGRAM 2 THE NOTES OF A DOMINANT PENTATONIC SCALE AS THEY APPEAR ON THE GUITAR NECK

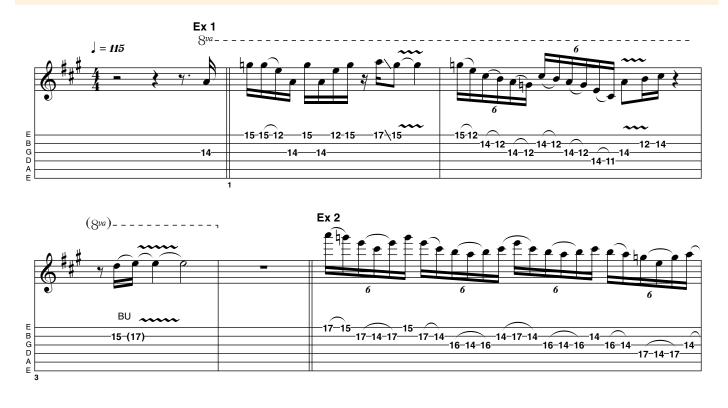


#### EXAMPLES **PLAYING TIPS**

CD TRACK 82

**EXAMPLE 1** This is the first of three two-notes-per-string examples. In bar 2, we use a succession of descending six-note patterns in CAGED shape #4 reminiscent of Shawn Lane (try creating a line using equivalent ascending motifs). Note that the final note (E) is bent up to via a Minor Pentatonic note a tone below (D).

**EXAMPLE 2** Next, we see the repetition of a 12-note, 16th-note triplet sequence in shape #5, although it drifts up to shape#1 at the end. This sequence was adapted from one that Uli Jon Roth of The Scorpions used with the Phrygian Dominant scale in the intro to the song Sails Of Charon.

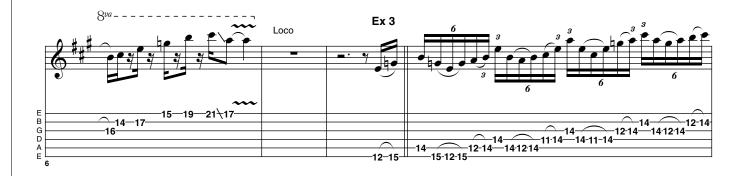


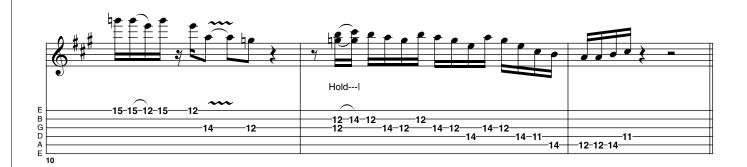
#### **EXAMPLES PLAYING TIPS**

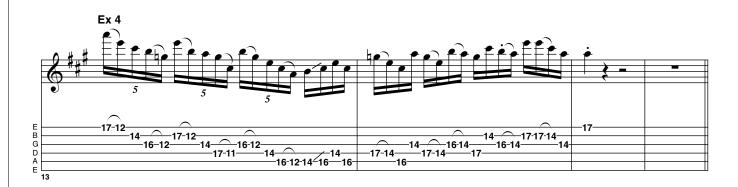
**EXAMPLE 5** This example also uses a three-notes-per-string approach (again,

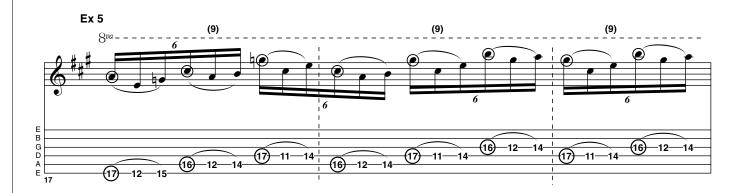
**EXAMPLE 3** Our final two-notes-per-string idea is based around shape #4 and employs barre rolls, whereby the same finger is used to play consecutive notes on adjacent strings at the same fret, as Greg Howe and Richie Kotzen both do. **EXAMPLE 4** Next, we look at ideas spanning two CAGED shapes. This one uses wide stretches and straddles shape #4 and #5, finishing in shape #5. Each fivenote motif is derived by playing every other note of a three-notes-per-string line, resulting in a 2-1-2 note configuration on each three-string group.

straddling CAGED shapes #4 and #5), but is the first one to employ picking-hand tapping. Here, a simple but effective three-note Van Halen-style tapping motif is used on each string. Note how, rhythmically, the notes are batched in groups of nine, leading to a less repetitive-sounding pattern. The last bend (on a pickinghand tap) extends into shape# 1 and should be supported on the same string by a bend at the 15th fret by the fretting hand.









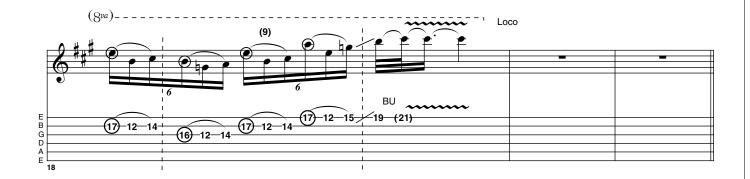
## DOMINANT PENTATONIC SCALE PT4 **II LEARNING ZONE**

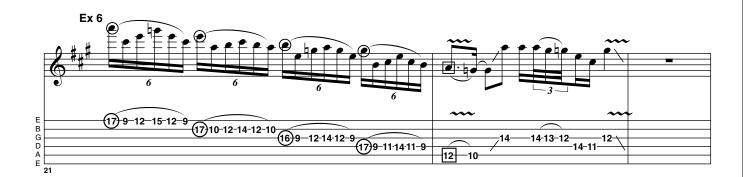
EXAMPLES PLAYING TIPS CD TRACK 82

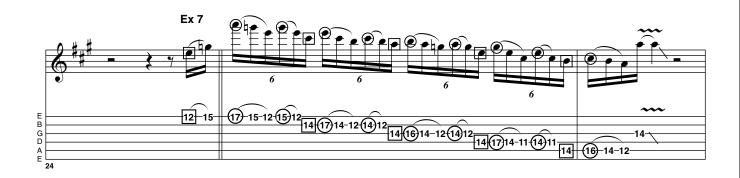
**EXAMPLE 6** I was tempted to leave this example towards the end as it's four-notes-per-string; but some of the following three-note examples are more difficult, or feature tapping or string skips. Playing four-notes-per-string requires you to simultanously visualise three CAGED shapes; a great way of unlocking the fretboard. Bar 22, features a chromatic G# to bridge between the A and G notes.

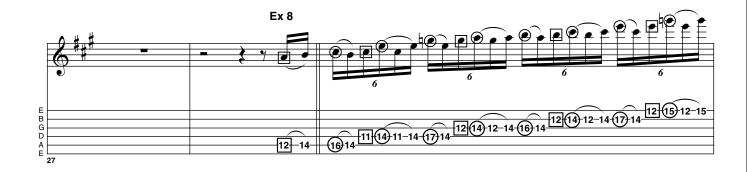
**EXAMPLE 7** Although three-notes-per-string (again, straddling shape #4 and #5), this example features an intricate interplay between fretting- and picking-hand tapping typical of Greg Howe.

**EXAMPLE 8** Basically, the Greg Howe-style ascending sequence in this example represents the ascending equivalent of the one in the previous example.









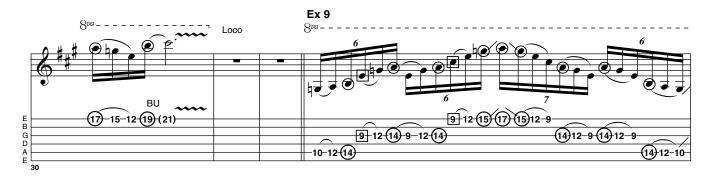
#### EXAMPLES **PLAYING TIPS**

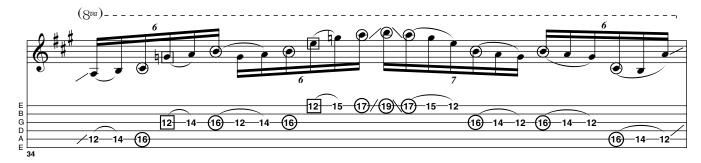
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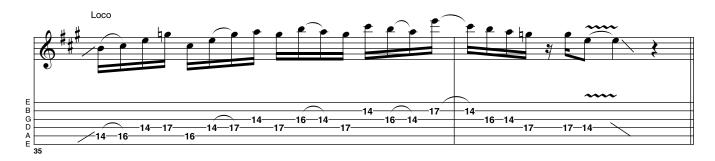
**EXAMPLE 9** Now, we start introducing string-skips. The passage in bar 33 (shape #3) is shifted laterally up the neck (to shape #4), where an equivalent series of notes is played within the scale. The line shifts to shape #5 in bars 35 and 36. **EXAMPLE 10** Here's a similar approach to the previous example, only here the shapes are confined to just the fifth and third strings. It features the same sort of lateral movement, and the initial 13-note motif is modified as we shift up the

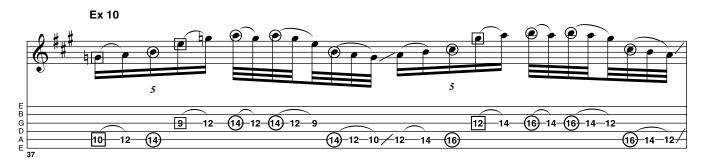
neck to stay within the scale. Place everything that you play in some sort of visual context in relation to the underlying shapes of A Dominant Pentatonic.

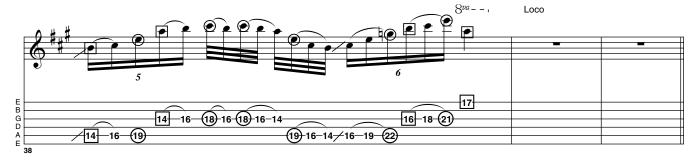
EXAMPLE 11 More of the same elements here (three-notes-per-string, tapping, string skips and lateral movement) only, this time, we are occupying the fourth and sixth strings. Here, we start in shape #3 and ascend. Note that this example finishes off with a blues-style Minor Pentatonic phrase.











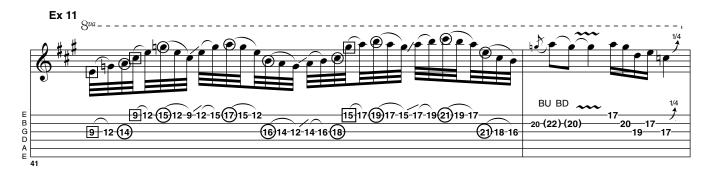
#### DOMINANT PENTATONIC SCALE PT4 11 LEARNING ZONE

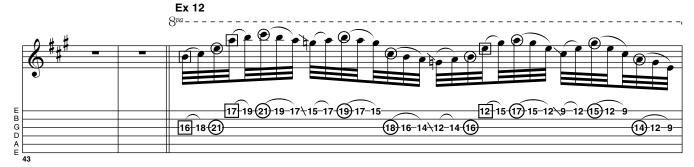
#### EXAMPLES **PLAYING TIPS**

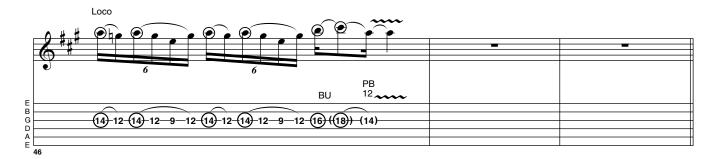
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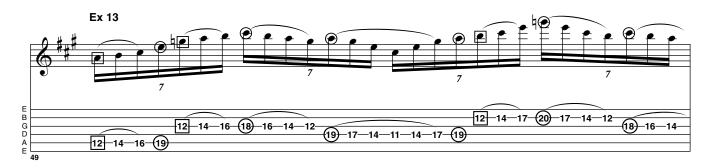
**EXAMPLE 12** This descending equivalent of Example 11 starts with the fretting hand in shape #5. In bar 46, the picking-hand tap bend (16th fret) is supported with a bend on the 12th fret of the same string with the fretting hand. The vibrato on that bend also comes from the fretting-hand bend at the 12th fret. **EXAMPLE 13** We finish off with another four-notes-per-string example; this

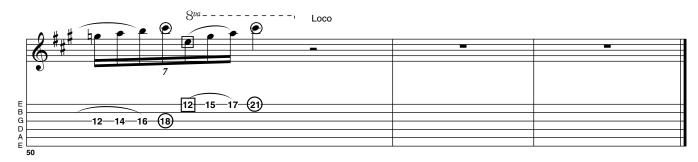
time, featuring string skips and executed using a combination of fretting- and picking-hand tapping. This example spans three CAGED shapes (#4, #5 and #1). Rhythmically, it's septuplets throughout (seven notes per beat). If you target the note at the start of each beat and focus on getting all the notes in between as evenly-spaced as possible, the internal rhythms should look after themselves.









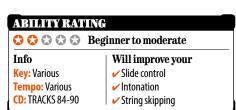




# Slide in open E pt 1



Favoured by Derek Trucks and Duane Allman of the Allman Brothers, **Harrison Marsh** takes a look at a tuning popular in electric slide playing.



pen E tuning is hugely popular in electric slide playing having been used by many guitarists including Duane Allman, Sonny Landreth, and Derek Trucks (the latter almost exclusively). From standard tuning, the first, second and sixth strings are the same as in standard tuning, the third string is tuned up a semitone to G# (the Major 3rd) and the fourth and fifth strings are tuned up a whole step to E and B respectively, going from high to low E-B-G#-E-B-E. This is equivalent to open D tuning a whole tone higher. If you do not wish to tune in this way, open D tuning with a capo on the second fret will give a similar result; however, this means going even higher up the neck and it can make some licks difficult. Many players will prefer the tone or find slide playing easier in open E due the higher string tension.

As well as huge success with The Allman brothers, Duane Allman was a successful studio musician playing with the likes of Boz

### Brought to you by... $RGT(\omega)$

Scaggs and Aretha Franklin with his signature slide sound. Influenced by Allman and Elmore James, Derek Trucks plays almost solely in open E. One of the things to notice in the examples is that, just because we are tuned to an open E chord does not mean the song must be in the key of E. Indeed, as the examples show, slide has been used in wider genres than just traditional blues - and in a range of keys. The examples also show how a slide player might typically use higher fret positions, which can be a challenge for the fretting hand when maintaining good intonation. It is also common for slide phrases to skip between non-adjacent strings, so work

#### INFLUENCED BY BOTH **DUANE ALLMAN AND ELMORE JAMES, DEREK** TRUCKS PLAYS SLIDE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY IN **OPEN E TUNING "77**

through the examples slowly to begin with. Working out the relevant scales shapes and ensuring effective picking-hand damping will make playing easier.

All the examples were recorded using a fingerstyle approach with the slide on the third finger. Be aware of dynamic and tonal differences when moving between strings to avoid any notes sounding thin.

Tips: It's common to use compression to even out the tone when playing slide, and accenting key notes of a phrase (perhaps with vibrato) can add colour to your playing.

**NEXT MONTH** Harrison continues his series with more slide ideas in **open E tuning** 





**TRACK RECORD** Live At Fillmore East (1971) is an essential introduction to The Allman Brothers, in particular Statesboro Blues. Tedeschi Trucks Band and Derek Trucks Band are well worth a listen – start with their third album Joyful Noise (2002). All of Sonny Landreth's albums are breathtaking, too, but we really like his new release, Sonny Landreth Recorded Live In Lafayette, so do check it out.

## SLIDE IN OPEN E PT1 **III LEARNING ZONE**

#### EXAMPLE 1 DUANE ALLMAN SESSION STYLE

TRACK 84

Duane played many great sessions for other artists. This example shows how Allman might tackle a solo intro phrase in the key of B,

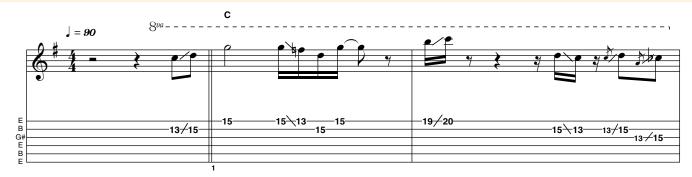


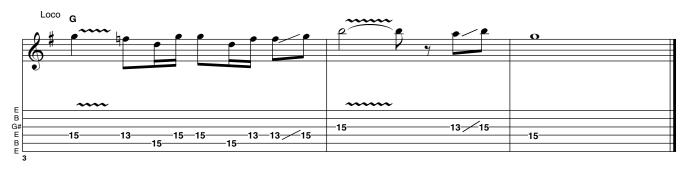
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#### **EXAMPLE 2 ALLMAN BROTHERS**

RACK 85

Pay close attention to intonation when using the higher fret positions in this example and have fun experimenting with vibrato where appropriate.

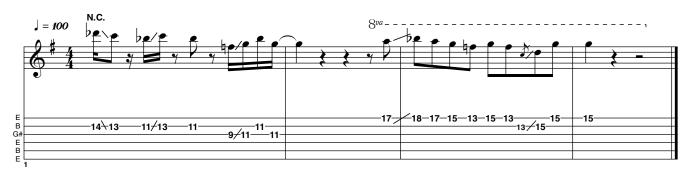




#### EXAMPLE 3 DEREK TRUCKS-STYLE LINE

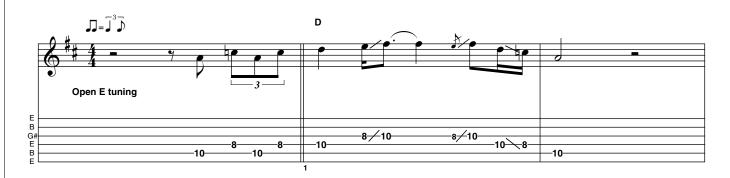
TRACK 87

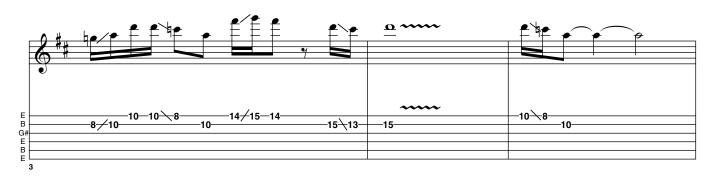
There are some large interval gaps here and some fast phrases so practising slowly and ensuring good intonation is vitally important.

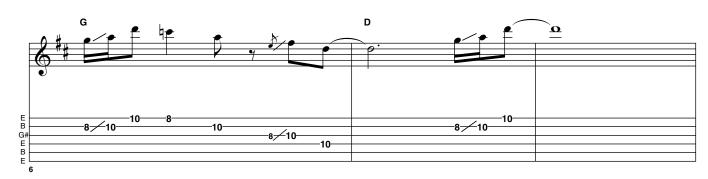


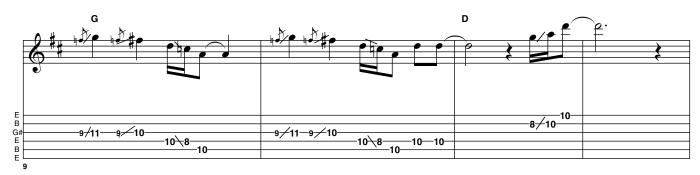
JAMTRACK TRACK 89

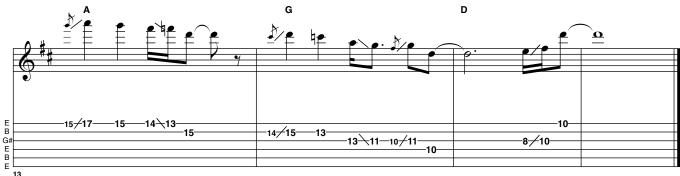
Slide playing is full of subtle phrases around similar fret positions. Concentrate on key notes in the phrase and build the subtle phrasing around these.











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## **In The Woodshed**



Join **Charlie Griffiths** as he looks at alternate picking while moving the pick between strings to play tight arpeggios.



#### **ABILITY RATING**

🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘 🕽 Moderate/Advanced

Info

**Key:** Various Tempo: Various **CD:** TRACKS 91-98 Will improve your...

- Picking dexterity
- ✓ Arpeggio playing
- ✓ Timing and accuracy

oving your pick from string to string is one of the most necessary but overlooked skills on the guitar. In this lesson we will focus purely on this skill by accurately articulating arpeggios by alternate-picking one note per string. A common problem with picking across strings

is that the pick can sometimes get snagged on the strings, or we hit the wrong string, or even miss the string altogether. Practising alternate picking arpeggios will give you more control over your note articulation and picking confidence. The main benefit of this approach is consistent timing; when your hand is moving constantly in a down and up motion there is an inherent momentum that helps keep the notes more even. So we minimise the chances of the pick getting caught up in the strings by using a shallow pick attack. Don't dig into the strings too much and only use the very tip of your plectrum. Aim to let the pick glide over the strings in a smooth motion



rather than jumping over them in a hopping fashion. Some players such as Al Di Meola and Steve Morse adjust the angle of their pick by turning the wrist slightly. This is a great way of fine-tuning the trajectory of your pick so it naturally glides past the string you wish to skip over or avoid. You can also buy picks with bevelled tips, which does a similar thing.

We have four examples for you to try. The first one is in a typical rock ballad-style arpeggio patten. It's based on held chord shapes and is played with a triplet feel. The aim here is to pick the notes evenly and smoothly while letting the notes ring together.

Example 2 has a Radiohead-style flavour

#### **66** WHEN YOUR HAND IS MOVING UP AND DOWN THERE'S AN INHERENT **MOMENTUM THAT HELPS KEEP THE NOTES EVEN**

and features string skipping. This example will help you hone your wrist movement by exaggerating the range of motion between pick strokes. Example 3 is inspired by alternate picking master Al Di Meola and is a much more complex pattern based in 16th-note phrasing. This part uses palm muting to keep the notes separated and tight.

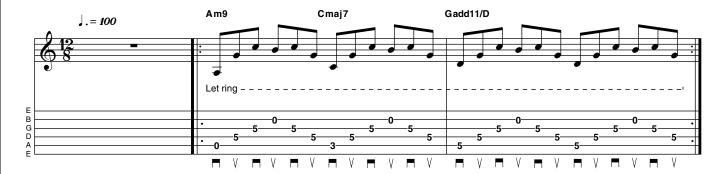
The final example is in the style of Steve Morse or John Petrucci with a six-notes-perclick feel. This will help you build speed and momentum in your picking.

Practise each example slowly with a metronome to ensure accuracy, then speed up gradually at around 5bpm at a time in order to instil consistency at a range of tempi. Finally, try playing along with the backing track we've provided - and have fun.

**NEXT MONTH** Charlie looks at the various ways of being creative using **Double-stops** 

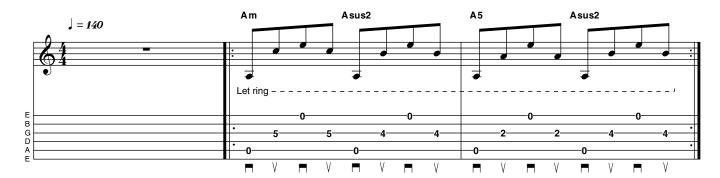
CD TRACK 91

Play the 5th fret notes on the middle strings with the third and fourth fingers throughout, and use your first and second fingers to play the notes on the fifth string. Every time you play the fifth string use a downstroke and use an upstroke on the second string. Focus on these two strings and let the pick move naturally down and up.



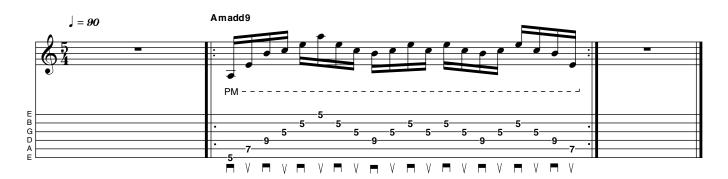
EXAMPLE 2 CD TRACK 93

Play the moving melody on the third string with any fingers of your choice; make sure you let the open strings ring out. Use downstrokes for the fifth and first strings and an upstroke on the third string. Use the tip of your pick to hit the strings and move from the wrist.



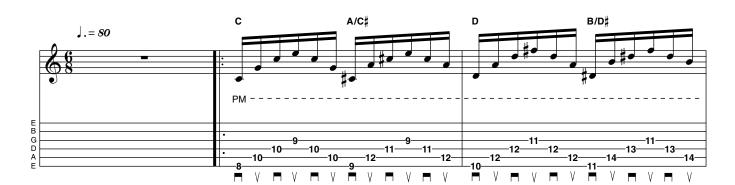
EXAMPLE 3 CD TRACK 95

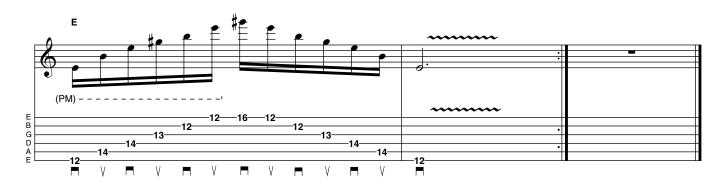
Hold the Am add9 chord as a barre chord throughout keeping the pressure even across all the strings. Start with a downstroke and alternate pick all the way up to the first string, then play the descending and ascending pattern before returning to the sixth string. Rest your palm on the strings at the bridge to keep the notes muted.



EXAMPLE 4 CD TRACK 97

This example uses a Major barre chord shape and a first inversion Major chord to ascend the neck one fret at a time. Pick six notes per beat using alternate strokes while palm muting to keep the notes separated. You can lift off your palm for the final descending arpeggio.







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Tapping whole chord based pieces is a really wonderful sound - think Stanley Jordan. We show you how! GT pays its respects to the amazing Allan Holdsworth with tributes from great players and a 'doable' style guide. Huge 10pp Jimmy Page style guide & loads extral



#### SEPTEMBER GT273

#### SWINGIN'THE BLUES

Jazzy jump blues will stretch your chops a little but prove a whole lot of fun. Play like the titans of the genre! String skipping and tapping are not just for mega-rock; they can be applied to all styles with great results. We show you how... and so much more!



#### JUNE GT270

#### **SESSION SECRETS**

Learn what's required on a studio or show session, then let nine studio legends tell you their inside stories. From the vault: Play like the great 'fingers only' electric bluesmen! The Wedding March tabbed. Learn two David Gilmour-style solos; new slide series & more!

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## NEWALBUMS

A selection of new and reissued guitar releases, including *Album Of The Month* 

#### Album of the Month

#### **GARY MOORE**

**BLUES AND BEYOND** 

BMG 🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘

This new retrospective focuses on Gary's blues output, highlighting his most emotive work. The standard package is a two-disc (four LP) set featuring 28 post-'90 tracks whereas the deluxe package has an extra



two discs featuring an unreleased live concert. The studio recordings represent the cream of Gary's blues period, beginning with Enough Of The Blues from 2001's Back To The Blues with classic cuts like Stormy Monday, You Upset Me Baby, I Can't Quit You Baby and My Baby (She's So Good To Me). The live stuff will delight completists and die-hards alike as it's where his fire often burned the brightest. These two discs cover a further 15 tracks from an as yet unspecified performance and it finds Gary in fine form, blasting his way through a veritable 'best of' with many of the numbers with which he will always be associated, including Oh Pretty Woman, Still Got The Blues and The Sky Is Crying. It's incendiary stuff and a fitting tribute to a guitarist who is still missed and mourned by so many.



#### ABSENCE OF WORDS Prosthetic Records 🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘

Jason Kui's new album features seven tracks crammed with guitar. There are high-power rockers (Polarized), ballads (Morning Breeze), prog metal (Dance Of Awakening) funky jams (Now! You Know!) and blues infused shuffles (Moving On), so plenty of variety. Based in Hong Kong and a busy touring guitarist, Jason has great chops that means he bends strings, alternate picks, legatos and screams with solid control and ability. Opener Polarized is a blend of modern rhythms, upbeat phrases and Shrapnel-esque slippery fretboard manoeuvres. Reactive Impulse's chorus brims with Major key confidence and blazing harmony runs. With nods to Andy Timmons and Satriani, his Morning Breeze ballad is rousing and

emotive with runs evoking these

Ibanez virtuosi. For meaty drop-tuned riffing and gritty Minor lines, Dance Of Awakening is prog metal on steroids. For a looser vibe, funky blues guitarist Josh Smith joins in on Now! You Know! for some great trades and licks. Tasty stuff!

#### CARL VERHEYEN **ESSENTIAL BLUES**

Crankton Entertainment 🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘 Verheyen wears many musical hats: session man, Supertramp guitarist, blues performer, music educator and a fan of all guitar styles. He's released several blues based albums (1999's Slingshot springs to mind) but none as explicit as this or recorded live in three days! Of the 10 tracks, Carl's written four, while the others are covers of Freddie King, Peter Green, Ray Charles, etc. Armed mostly with single-coil guitars, fans

of Carl will know he has a huge



vocabulary and his super chops, tasteful licks and sophisticated chordal approach makes for a rewarding listen. I Take What I Want has a great train shuffle and shows Carl in fine voice with great Strat country blues comping and a stinging solo. Freddie King's Someday After Awhile is lovely great chord changes, lead licks that emote and nail the changes with aplomb. Jazzy chords and chromatic bass line impress on the re-work of I May Be Wrong, But I Won't Be Wrong Always/Closing Time Jazz; Carl sure puts a spin on this Ten Years After song ('A Count Basie thing' Alvin Lee stated in the late 60s). Perhaps the best known cover here, Oh Well retains much of Fleetwood Mac's grandeur and space. The guitar licks and organ trade-offs are great! To close, Ray Charles' Hard Times features a rich Strat, a gorgeous swing pocket and chord voicings at which Carl really excels. Cracking stuff!



#### **SUPERSONIC BLUES MACHINE**

**CALIFORNISOUL** 

Provogue 🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘

This trio features the funky blues of singer-guitarist Lance Lopez, the low-end chomp of bassist Fabrizio Grossi and the stomp of A-list drummer, Kenny Aronoff. Top it off with some outstanding guest slots and it's a fun ride. I Am Done Missing You has a big chorus and big reggae-meets-rock groove; Somebody's Fool has a huge blues stomp, dirty guitar riff, tasty slide licks and a biting Tele solo from Robben Ford. L.O.V.E has a peach of a solo; it's vibey, big on bends and finished off with a burning descending line. ZZ Top's Billy Gibbons is renowned for rocking mid-tempo chuggers, and Broken Heart gets a searing solo from BFG. Elevate has a toe-tapping groove, Hendrix-esque licks and a great Eric Gales wah solo. An 'Isley Brothers meets Curtis Mayfield' template makes The One perhaps the most infectious song on the

album, while mid-tempo Hard Times sees Steve Lukather flying with bluesy Hendrix bends and whammy bar gargles. Possibly the most biting solo is Walter Trout on What's Wrong - fantastic! All in all a very uplifting album. Go get!

#### **DAVID GILMOUR**

LIVE AT POMPEII

Columbia 🗘 🗘 🗘 🗘

Pink Floyd's association with the amphitheatre at Pompeii goes back to 1971 when their performance was famously captured on film to become part of the band's folklore. In July 2016 David Gilmour took a stellar band back as part of his Rattle That Lock tour, playing two nights at the ancient venue to enthralled fans. It was all about spectacle: lights, lasers, the huge circular screen, pyrotechnics - all adding to the theatre of the occasion. For this release there's the twin CD pack we're considering here, plus DVD and Blu-Ray videos and the deluxe box set with an extra 207 minutes of footage on an additional Blu-Ray disc. The latter packages all deliver visual evidence of the atmosphere in the arena, shot at 4k resolution and in quad sound. The CDs, however, consign imagery to the imagination and let the music speak for itself. The set draws heavily on Rattle That Lock, calling on Gilmour's previous album On An Island for a couple of tracks, the rest composed of classic Waters-era Floyd: The Great Gig In The Sky, Wish You Were Here and One Of These Days as well as cuts from the three-piece studio albums like Sorrow and What Do You Want From Me? The playing is impeccable, with Gilmour's soaring lines the focus of every song, the set gathering momentum as it races towards the climactic Comfortably Numb. The CD set does an admirable job from an audio point of view, but we would heartily recommend one of the DVD packages in order to witness the full extravaganza.



# SIXTY SECONDS with...

A minute's all it takes to find out what makes a great guitarist tick. Before they jumped into their limo for the airport we grabbed a quick chat with Dave Smith and Jack Cable of Cambridge blues-rockers Austin Gold.

#### GT: Do you have a type of pick that you can't live without?

DAVE: I used to use Dunlop Tortex 1.14s but about three years ago I switched to Jazz III XLs. I love the focused point and rigidity for riffs and lead work. JACK: Dunlop Tortex .88mm (green ones). I used to use lighter ones but I hit the strings a lot harder now, and I find that these give me the best feel.

#### GT: If you had to give up all your effects pedals but three, what would they be?

DAVE: I'm a pedal addict! I have buckets of vintage stuff. However, for Austin Gold I've reduced my board to literally a Korg tuner, an Xotic BB Plus, a TC Electronic Flashback delay and a Electro-Harmonix Holy Grail reverb. Oh and the best effect of all - the volume knob!

JACK: It would have to be my BB pre-amp, Neo Instruments Mini Vent and TC Flashback. They are the bare bones of the tones I used on the album.

#### GT: Do you play another musical instrument well enough to do so in a band?

DAVE: Guitar is my instrument, first and foremost. Subsequently I've earned a living over the past 10 years as a drummer and obviously a singer. I also play bass and piano but my passion and direction is the guitar. From the age of 12 playing my dad's dreadnought, I got the bug. JACK: I have filled in on bass many times in a function band capacity; even done a little session work on bass. I play drums for another project but mostly for fun and I wouldn't call myself a drummer. I did a gig with a funk band on keys once but I don't think a hand full of 5ths and glissandos make you a keys player.

#### GT: If a music chart were put in front of you, could you read it?

DAVE: I've been a full-time guitar tutor for 20 years now and I've always used tab. I've found my pupils have benefited from the immediacy of tab and then they

concentrate on application. Of course I respect that there's two sides to charts and tabs. JACK: Chord charts, no problem, I use them often. A complex piece of traditional notation, however, I would need time to read and memorise for the most part.

#### GT: Do guitar cables really make a difference? What make are yours?

DAVE: Well, Jack is the tech guy but leads make a huge difference. I've used Whirlwind and Planet Waves in the past but in addition I've really noticed the difference with my Voodoo Labs 2 Plus power supply.

JACK: Yes I'm a little OCD when it comes to things like cables and power. I am in the process of upgrading my pedal board with a GigRig Quartermaster and all Lava Cables solderless patchleads. I have Lava patch-leads now but feel I'm losing something having all my pedals in line. From guitar to board and board to amp I am currently using Sommer Cable with Neutrik connectors. I also have some Van Damme stuff that I like a lot too. So yes, cables make a difference.

#### GT: Is there anyone's playing (past or present) that you're slightly jealous of?

DAVE I've never been jealous of any player's abilities. I find it inspirational. Hendrix, Gibbons, Gilmour, I strive every day to master their command of the guitar. I had the pleasure of meeting one my favourite guitarists, whom encapsulates the aforementioned, Andy Timmons. He's just incredible.

JACK: I agree that jealous is the wrong word. Are there players that I can only ever dream of emulating? Yes, loads! I am currently still trying to pick my jaw up off of the floor after seeing Joey Landreth. John Mayer is high on my list too. Is there anything that guy can't play?

#### GT: Your house or music studio is burning down: which guitar do you salvage?

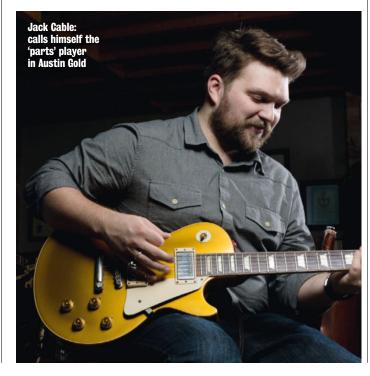
DAVE: If I had to save only one of my guitars in an emergency, I would struggle, to be honest. But my signature Vanquish DS model would be right up there. I've been very fortunate to have been endorsed by Vanquish guitars since 2015. I used that guitar exclusively on our album. JACK: My 57 reissue Les Paul Goldtop. My father bought me that guitar as an investment in me on my 18th birthday, so that guitar means a lot.

#### GT: What's your favourite amp and how do you set it?

DAVE: I'm currently using a Mesa Single Rectifier 50w. Slightly unorthodox for a Boogie Rec but I have the gain channel set to vintage, nearly full mid, half bass and half treble. It's smooth and very responsive. I also use a 1978 Marshall JMP master volume 100w with very similar settings, maybe less treble. They work so well as rhythm and lead. JACK: I love my Victory V40. It's a great pedal platform. I use it on Voice 2, gain set just on the edge, treble and bass set around 6 and mid around 3. I use the reverb on my board not the V40's and all my pedals are straight in the front.

#### GT: What kind of action do you have on your guitars - any quirks or foibles that have to be met?

DAVE: I've always favoured a medium action on my guitars. I like to dig in and get under the strings when bending. JACK: It depends on the fret height of the guitar. My Vanguish has pretty tall frets so I can have a lower action as my fingers don't get caught up on the fretboard as much. My Les Paul has more vintage style frets so needs to be set up a little higher to achieve the same kind of thing.



#### SIXTY SECONDS WITH **AUSTIN GOLD**



#### GT: What strings do you use?

DAVE: As we detune a semitone I find .10s really work with heavy bottom strings (fifth and sixth). I've started using Rotosound Pure Nickel strings and the stability is a game changer.

JACK: I use Elixirs, 10-46 gauge. I started using them a few years ago and liked the lifespan of them. I have not found a reason to change yet but I have had a lot of recommendations to try some Pure Nickels so might give some a go pretty soon.

#### GT: Who was your first influence to play the guitar?

DAVE: I suppose my first exposure to the guitar was The Beatles. Beautiful chord arrangements and George's counter melodies. But it has to be Billy Gibbons, as seeing ZZ Top on TV as a kid just blew me away.

Then I discovered Electric Ladyland, Still Got The Blues, Dark Side Of The Moon, just really tasty players.

JACK: John Frusciante, I picked up the guitar just after the release of By The Way. The first riff I learned to play was Can't Stop. I bought all the books for the Chili Peppers albums and studied them

Telecaster Custom in three-tone sunburst with double binding. Probably because John Frusciante played one. I owned a Custom Shop one for while but the neck was too thin so it stopped getting used in favour of the Vanguish. I'd like a proper one some day, with a little thicker neck and some taller frets.

#### **66** PLAYING A FESTIVAL IN FRONT OF A SEA OF FACES SINGING THE WORDS TO OUR SONGS, THAT WAS VERY SPECIAL ""

religiously. I still really enjoy playing through John's stuff.

#### GT: What was the first guitar you really lusted after?

DAVE: I remember being at school, drooling over a picture of a candy apple red American Strat. That colour still stirs me to this day! JACK: Mine was a 60s Fender

#### GT: What was the single best gig vou ever did?

DAVE: Having been a player for over 20 years there's been many great gigs. But when we played a big festival in Peterborough in front of a sea of faces all singing our songs, that was very special. JACK: I'm hoping the best is yet to come! Probably one of our

festival gigs so far though. I do love the bigger stages.

#### GT: And how about your worst playing nightmare?

DAVE: Well, even though I've played gigs with fractured ribs, with tonsillitis, broken fingers, sickness, malfunctioning gear among many other nightmare situations, I think that receiving the call to tell me that my wife was getting contractions with our son, mid-set, was the most traumatic of all!

JACK: I think I have generally got off pretty lightly so far (hoping I haven't just cursed myself). I have had a few blown amps, the occasional fight break out in the audience. But other than that I can't remember a time when I have been too ill to play, or had anything major go wrong. Sorry, bit of a boring answer to that one.



#### GT: What's the most important musical lesson you ever learnt?

DAVE: Upon discovering the CAGED system, my playing changed overnight. The whole fretboard just opens up for rhythm, arrangements with two guitars and keys and the freedom to improvise in solos. JACK: I can't remember where I

first heard it but it has always stuck with me: learning when not to play. It is how I approach my playing; if there isn't a need for you to be playing, then don't. Listen to the band and find where there is a space for you. Pick your moments, let the song breathe. As Jimmy Page always says, "light and shade".

#### GT: Do you still practise?

DAVE: Practice is paramount. To get a particular passage correct, or to nail the nuance, repetition is key. Then, once it's under your skin you have the opportunity to move things around a little. JACK: Yes. But not in the way I used to. I'm currently trying to spend more time finding interesting ways of playing through changes and always increasing my knowledge of chord structure. I have just picked up a slide after my Joey Landreth discovery. I'm also a big Scott Holiday (Rival Sons) fan so there are some open tunings being worked on currently.

#### GT: Do you have a pre-gig warm-up routine?

DAVE: Pre-gig I like to play an acoustic before we go on. No distractions with noise or settings, just play. Get your chops down. Plus playing a slightly heavier gauge of strings warms the fingers and tendons up so your hands are super relaxed when you get the stage call.

JACK: Depends on the gig.

and I'll hide near the back and try not to get thrown out.

#### GT: Present company accepted, who's the greatest guitarist that's ever lived?

DAVE: To pinpoint the best guitarist that ever lived is so subjective. I think the only way to approach this is to acknowledge who's been the most instrumental to expose the electric guitar to the masses. So with that in mind I'd have to say Jimi Hendrix. JACK: Horrible question. Yeah, Jimi Hendrix was probably the most groundbreaking of all time. But, what do I know and who is to say I'm right?

#### GT: Is there a solo by another guitarist that you really wish you had played?

DAVE: It's an obvious choice to state which solo I wish I'd written but it would have to be Dave Gilmour's solo on Comfortably Smaller shows I don't tend to have | Numb. I saw him play at the Royal

general I'm proud of all of my parts and all of our songs. GT: What would you most like to be remembered for?

shaking my guitar vigorously and

ended up on my knees! But the emotion comes through. JACK: I'm proud of them all. It's

parts not solos for me. I think I play one very brief solo on the

strengths, not mine. I'm proud of

the opening riffs on See The Light and All The Way Down but in

album. That is one of Dave's

DAVE: If my lyrics, songwriting and guitar playing affect anyone positively, then I've done all I can. JACK: Just to be remembered would be nice wouldn't it?

#### GT: And finally, what are you up to at the moment?

DAVE: Well our debut album Before Dark Clouds is our primary focus at the minute. We are just putting together a decent tour in the UK and Europe and have started doing some background work, writing sessions and bits and bobs ready for our second album. But let's focus on the first for now. It would be great if you could mention it: Austin Gold, Before Dark Cloud. It's on the Jigsaw label and distributed by Cadiz. Come and see us at: 22 Sept, Duck & Drake, Leeds 27 Sept, Dublin Castle, Camden 6 Oct, Voodoo Lounge, Stamford 24 Oct, West Street Live, Sheffield

For more information, please visit www.austingold.band

#### **44** ON DISCOVERING THE CAGED SYSTEM MY PLAYING CHANGED OVERNIGHT. THE WHOLE FRETBOARD JUST OPENS UP ""

any particular routine. Bigger shows I might run through a couple of warm-ups and a few parts from songs before we go on. That's kind of it. Check tunings and away we go.

#### GT: If you could put together a fantasy band with you in it, who would the other players be.

DAVE: It would have to be Dave Grohl on drums, Chris Cornell on vocals, Paul McCartney on bass, Elton John on keys and I'd try to keep up on guitar.

JACK: How many players am I allowed? Can I have subs at half time? Off the top of my head it would be: Jeff Porcaro on drums. Pino Palladino on bass, Stevie Wonder on keys, John Mayer on guitar, Freddie Mercury singing

Albert hall and when it kicked in, complete strangers were holding hands and we were all touching shoulders. It was a moment of unification via guitar. JACK: My dad isn't a player but he loves music. He played me Stairway To Heaven live from The Song Remains The Same. Jimmy Page's solo on that is full of errors and fall-offs but that is a great live solo to me.

#### GT: What's the solo/song of your own of which you're most proud?

DAVE: There's a track off our debut album Before Dark Clouds called Home Ain't Home. When I recorded the solo, our producer Andy Hawkins insisted I stand up and cut some shapes while laying it down. By the climax I was



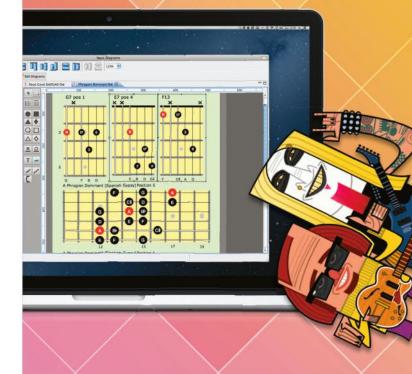
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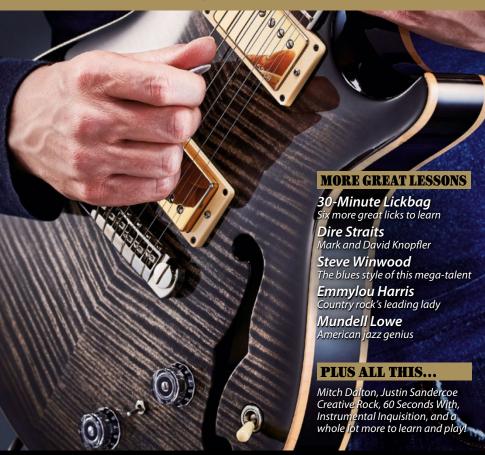
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