

*Guitar Course for intermediate/advanced players*

**“FROM BLUES, FOLK & ROOTS FINGERPICKING  
TO FINGERSTYLE JAZZ”**

**Basic techniques**

Right hand arpeggios.

Chords in first position with open strings in root position and inversions.

Finger independence exercises with monotonic, and alternated bass.

**Primary studies and exercises**

First position chords licks. Triads and sevenths.

Bass lines on the downbeat with counterpoint melodies.

Chords extensions.

**Tunes built around licks**

Blues progressions based on fingerpicking licks

**Walking bass and more**

Simple short songs.

8, 12, 16 bars blues.

Rhythm Changes.

**Ragtime**

Guitar arrangements and transcriptions of Scott Joplin’s masterpieces, and contemporary composers.

**From Fingerpicking to Fingerstyle Jazz**

Fingerstyle Arrangement operative procedure in four steps:

- 1) Melody and Chords
- 2) Alternate bass derived from chords
- 3) Syncopate the melody line
- 4) Building the walking bass line

Introduction to “Chord-Melody Style”: melody played together with bass lines and chords

A piano concept of the guitar.

How to re-harmonise songs: tools and techniques.

Development of personal arrangements: starting from simple templates to create your own ones.

Advanced applications in different songs and forms: from simple structures to more complex.

Examples in many styles, as folk, blues, jazz, swing, bossa, ... and beyond

**Vocals & Fingerstyle Guitar**

Sing-a-long while playing: how to sing a melody with a walking bass, and a counterpoint line at the same time, all done by one musician only, of course.

Talking blues and syncopated singing, a progressive approach.

## **Musical pre-requisites to get full value from the Course\***

### **Theory and Harmony**

Basic knowledge of music theory: tonality, rhythm, intervals...

Major, Minor, pentatonic, blues scales.

Triads (major, min, aug, dim), and Sevenths (7, major7, min7, min7/5b).

Inversions (chords with the bass note different from the root).

Diatonic Harmony basics (triads on scales, simple chords progressions as V-I, II-V-I, III-VI- II-V-I,...)

### **Sight Reading**

Melody lines in Treble Clef

Functional harmony: chords indicated with symbols, like for example “G min7”, or “Eb 9”... Voicing: spelling of the notes that form the chords

### **Instrumental playing**

Comping and arpeggios on chords progressions, blues, turnarounds, simple songs. Fluent technique on both hands (the picking and the fretting one)

*\* These skills are recommended, but not necessary for successfully attending the Fingerstyle Course*