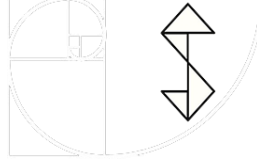


UKULELE LESSONS ©
By
Francisco Jaimes
(www.strings-theory.com)



HISTORY OF THE INSTRUMENT

- Migration and evolution of the string instruments
- Styles, materials, instrument sizes
- High and low G String reasons (sound waves) Is it for you?
- Instrument Tuning, diverse types of metronome
- You learn the instrument and the instrument learns your too.

THEORY or INSTINCTIVE PLAYING

- What is more important (samples of both)
- Why are both necessary in your playing
- Your instrument is another body extension (muscle memory)

ARM & HAND EXERCISES

- Finger and hand stretching (reasons)
- STRETCHING, FLEXING
- Wrist exercises
- Rubber ball exercises, lap exercises

INSTRUMENT POSITIONING

- Sitting positions and standing positions
- Advantages of each position

METRONOME

- Importance and goals using this tool
- How to use it correctly
- Feet and head in keeping beat (human instinct, examples)
- Focusing and breathing correctly during playing
- Concentration becomes instinct

BASIC MUSICAL THEORY 1

- Music is a language and science
- 4 goals we want to achieve with our instrument:
 - 1 Tone
 - 2 Rhythm
 - 3 Notes
 - 4 Dynamics (Dynamiken Kräftepiel)

CHORD GROUPING

- 1,2,3 finger chords, advanced chords
- Geometry within chords
- Pencil technique between fingers to avoid muting
- One finger chords using the correct fingers (Am7 & C – Am)
- **HORRIBLE KILLER** Bar chords made easy, let the chord ring out

RHYTHM, BEAT & MELODY

- What is a melody?
- What is a beat
- Building melodies and rhythms within a beats

HAND POSITIONS Right and LEFT

- Importance of right hand looseness (less effort and precision while playing)
- Right Arm fixation
- Right hand curve position
- Left hand position and finger tips
- Nails & skin technique
- Which fingers to use for certain chords

STRUMMING TECHNIQUES beginners

- Where to strum and arpeggiate within a ukulele
- Thumb technique (flesh)
- Thumb & Index technique (flesh)
- Thumb down (flesh) & up (nail)
- One Finger chord technique (for soft and fast playing)
- Index Finger & Thumb circle (flesh & nail) for hard and loud strumming
- Hand and wrist technique
- Skin & nail strumming techniques to give diverse textures, colours and attack
- Advantages of each style and technique, when to use them

FINGER THUMB AND PICADO TECHNIQUES

- Advantages of both
- What suits better a ukulele?
- Skin thumb down stroke, Index upstroke skin

FINGER POSITIONS ACCORDING TO CHORDS AND SCALES

- Voicing (different octaves)
- Scales require and some accords require certain fingers
- (Chromatic scale practice)

DYNAMICS

- Dynamics are not just volume but passion, expression and emotion
- Tension and release a long a song
- A song needs diverse interpretation techniques depending it's character and progression
- 3 basic right hand dynamic techniques

- Introduction to arpeggios, basic technique
Common Dynamics:
piano/soft (*p*)
mezzo-piano/medium soft (*mp*)
mezzo forte/medium loud (*mf*)
forte/loud (*f*)
fortissimo/VERY LOUD (*ff*)
- Exercises using dynamics metronome and finger techniques.

THEORY (TONE)

- Importance of tone variation
- Octaves
- String thickness

TABLATURE

- How to use tablature
- Reading note sections and chord progressions in a tablature

STRING PICKING TECHNIQUES

- Strumming with diverse finger techniques
- Humming a strumming pattern
- Arpeggios (metronome exercises)
- Learning basic arpeggios variations

THEORY (Harmony and Melody)

- Chord samples for harmony
- Scale samples for melody

WITH SONGS LEARNING

- Use diverse techniques in the diverse sections
- Own interpretations with diverse dynamics techniques learnt
- Let's analyze your favorite songs and play them together

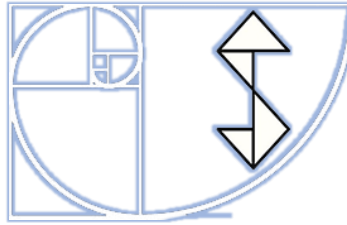
SCALES

- Importance of scales
- How to improvise on scales
- Speak to people through your instrument
- Sometimes less is more (samples love is blindness U2 soloing)
- Simple scale enhancements (slides, hammer-ons, bends, vibrato etc.)

PLAYING WITH OTHERS

- Learn to listen you and the other person
- Musical symbiosis

—+ — ADVANCED —+ —



REVIEW PREVIOUS COURSE

- Review of all

ADVANCED TREMOLO

- 1 Finger technique (acquiring speed)
- 3 Finger Spanish tremolo technique (acquiring precision and speed)
- Tremolo and drone technique
- Spanish abanico finger technique

PERCUSSION TECHNIQUES

- Mixing strings and instrument's wood percussion
- Rasgueo percussion
- Finding your ukulele's percussive sweet spot.

STRING PALM MUTTING TECHNIQUES

- USED in: African music, funk, reggae, bossa nova, bachata, etc.

STYLES

- Bossa Nova
- Folk
- Classic
- Country strumming
- Latin (diverse styles)
- Blues
- Reggae (upbeat, offbeat, mute notes)
- Flamenco: percussive rasgueo, Golpe, alzapua, abanico, etc.

IMPROVISING & JAMMING

- Soling in any note (scales and improvisation)
- When soloing you are making spoken statements: fear, anger, joy, love, rage
- "Errors" are beautiful
- Visualization of tone before playing
- Goal of an orchestra (the importance of each small instrument in the whole)
- Silence creates attention
- Invite people into your realm

PHRASING, SOLOING & performing

- Licks, Phrasing, Melody (samples)

- Solos tell a story
- Getting inside the note to get people's attention

IMPROVISING

- 1st rule (don't be afraid)
- 2 rule (do errors exist? (culture)
- play like you mean it (examples)
- let the song breath, one or 2 Strings VS a full Chord progression

ADVANCES TECHNIQUES

- Legatos
- staccatos
- Advances muting techniques
- Chord swiping
- Pinch & Natural harmonics

INTRUCTION TO A FLOOR LOOPER & COMPOSE

- Become a one man band
- Let's compose one full song together
- Let's record your own Uke song and distribute it