

BOOKS BY PETE PARDEE

NOW AVAILABLE!!

BANJO PICKING—A Complete Method Mel Bay Publications, 128 pages with CD

BANJO PICKING offers banjo players a valuable new method book and CD focused on training the picking hand. Square one beginners through seasoned professionals will find resources to improve and grow musically. The many exercises and tunes give banjoists all they will need to learn to pick confidently with complete control and facility. There are lots of photographs, many helpful suggestions on set up, tuning, ear training, hand positions, thumb and finger picks, timing and use of the metronome, rhythms, reading music and tablature, chords and music theory. A unique, integrated banjo notation is introduced. The CD contains the audio of many of the exercises and tunes, played slowly and deliberately. Once learned, players can then play them at other tempos of their choice.

There's lots here for any five string banjo player to learn music from lots of musical styles: bluegrass, folk, celtic, classic fingerstyle (the urban banjo style which flourished from c. 1860 to 1915 in America), jazz, and modern classical music. With some study, banjo players can master the imbedding of a melody among surrounding notes from the prevailing harmony, characteristic of the bluegrass banjo style and nowadays adapted to many kinds of music. The needed tools for a player to develop their own arrangements are all here too, and there are six "mystery" tunes to do just that as part of the appendices. The appendices give further projects, help in reading and understanding music, bass and piano accompaniments.

Visit the *BANJO PICKING—A Complete Method TUTORIAL* page for lots of valuable supplemental information and instruction to guide you through the book and enhance your banjo learning experience.

What Players and Teachers Say

Following are excerpts from the many enthusiastic endorsements of the book, *BANJO PICKING—A Complete Method* by some of today's top banjo players and teachers:

"...Pete Pardee's book, *BANJO PICKING—A Complete Method*, is such an important addition to the body of instructional material available to banjo players today. It teaches students of all levels how to bring greater expression into their music through the use of various picking hand techniques...which can help unlock the door to stylistic development.

The five string banjo is enjoying its greatest renaissance. *BANJO PICKING* provides an inspirational resource for all who love to play this exciting and ever-changing instrument."

—Bob Black

I have always been inspired by Pete Pardee's pioneering approach to the five-string banjo. He has a tremendous capacity for viewing the banjo objectively—free from preconceived stereotypes. Pete brings this spirit to bear in *BANJO PICKING*. This book presents Pete's methodical approach to unlocking the banjo's full potential as a musical instrument.

—John Bullard

BANJO PICKING will keep your interest regardless of your playing level, and is fun to work with. Designed with the right hand as the primary focus, this book offers far more than one could imagine. It will challenge both hands and expand your working knowledge of the fingerboard.

—Janet Davis

What Players and Teachers Say, continued

Whatever musical style you play on the five-string banjo—traditional bluegrass, fiddle tunes, single string jazz or something beyond to the instrument's outermost modern musical fringes—it's essential to have a good, solid right hand. In this volume, Pete Pardee has pushed forward the three-finger banjo envelope through a meticulously graded series of exercises which provide the necessary right hand foundation for great playing at any level and in any three-finger style. In addition, this volume will whip your left hand into shape, help you to understand some of the deepest mysteries of music theory as well as have you playing some choice tunes that range from J. S. Bach to ragtime-era classic banjo and even a jazz standard. All in all, this is a very deep and satisfying work that should provide years of enjoyment as a primary banjo reference.

—Bill Evans

"...a carefully thought-out book for the student of the five-string banjo. He has covered everything so well from exacting notation to proper playing pedagogy that I don't see how anyone following this book can't become a good fingerstyle banjo player. *BANJO PICKING* serves as one of the best foundations for fingerstyle banjo playing ever written. It's a must for every bluegrass picker and classical banjo player as well.

—Frank Hamilton

"...*BANJO PICKING* will provide a wealth of information and insight into the complexities of banjo picking. ...Peter systematically explains all the picking-hand techniques essential to the complete banjoist—there's much within these pages to inspire both the budding musician and the seasoned professional. And his innovative conjoined notation, which bridges the gap between tablature and music notation, will help every banjoist to meet the challenges of new pieces of music and to discover and polish his or her own musical voice.

—Bill Keith

What Players and Teachers Say, continued

As a long time student of the five string banjo and its history, I am impressed with the wide range of information this book contains in only 128 pages. I'm especially pleased with the extensive use of both text and photos dealing with the proper right hand position and the use of finger picks. This is something usually glossed over in banjo methods. The...notation is a welcome addition as well, since this will help prepare the student for using non-banjo music in learning solos.

—Andy King

Pete has done the banjo community a great service with this exhaustive compendium of right hand patterns. Players at any level of experience will profit from a serious study of these roll exercises.

—John Lawless

There are many different choices for instructional material these days. Many more than when I started learning to play the banjo nearly 30 years ago. Now and then, a new choice will emerge that is clearly superior to its counterparts. Peter Pardee's book, *BANJO PICKING—A Complete Method*, is just such a choice. After going over the book myself and even incorporating it into my banjo instruction classes, it is easy to see that Peter's book offers players of all skill levels a wealth of banjo information. With...great attention paid to each little detail, Peter has developed a teaching resource that will be invaluable to aspiring banjoists everywhere.

If you are serious about learning to play the five string banjo or if you are someone who has hit the proverbial "wall" with your picking abilities, I highly recommend that you try *BANJO PICKING—A Complete Method*.

—Lynwood Lunsford

What Players and Teachers Say, continued

Peter Pardee, with the publication of *BANJO PICKING—A Complete Method*, has filled a gap long needed for the serious banjoist. It provides a learned look at the intricacies of the three finger approach used by players of the banjo from the classic to the bluegrass styles of playing. In great detail the author takes beginners and advanced player through the building blocks of the three finger approach to the five string banjo. Additionally, it offers a unique combination of tablature and standard musical notation—an excellent and painless way to learn to read music. This volume is not to be missed by the determined student of the instrument.

—Alan Munde

Peter Pardee's *BANJO PICKING* will make a wonderful addition to your banjo library. It's filled with tunes and exercises to sophisticate your right hand. You'll move from beginning to advanced (all comers are welcome in this inspiring tome) while dipping into the wellsprings of bluegrass, jazz, classical, and classic parlor styles. This will open your mind and ears and make you a more wide-ranging and versatile player. Well worth the price of admission.

—Tony Trischka

Pete Pardee has created a unique and inventive instructional product for banjo. With modern banjo styles demanding the widest possible range of note choices, Pete's exercises are structured to help a player become familiar with the range of possibilities. His system offers a formidable array of right hand patterns, helping the player to develop maximum flexibility and versatility.

—Pete Wernick

