SOLO FLATPICKING GUITAR

10 FAVORITE FIDDLE TUNES



BY ROBERTO DALLA VECCHIA

Solo Flatpicking Guitar

Welcome to the PDF-based version of Roberto Dalla Vecchia's *Flatpicking Guitar Solos*. All pages of this book are presented in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document File (.PDF) format and are printable on your computer printer.

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FORWARD

Since flatpicking guitar players typically perform and record in the ensemble setting, flatpicking solos are usually arranged in the context of other instruments providing rhythmic and harmonic accompaniment. While those single note linear solos sound great when played in the context of an ensemble, they can sound quite sparse and lacking in texture and dimension if the flatpicking guitar player is playing solo. More and more, flatpickers are exploring solo performance. Well known flatpickers like Dan Crary, Beppe Gambetta, Steve Kaufman, David Grier, Robert Bowlin and Orrin Star, and others, are performing and/or recording as solo acts. These players are adding techniques such as open ringing notes, chordal strums, chord-melody style phrases, floating licks, drone notes, and crosspicking to their linear lines in order to add a full texture and broad dimension to solo performances. But still, written material arranged for the solo player is not so easy to find.

In this book Italian flatpicker Roberto Dalla Vecchia explores ten standard flatpicking fiddle tunes and has arranged them for solo flatpicking guitar. Roberto is a talented flatpicker who is comfortable performing and recording as a solo act. His arrangements here are creative and interesting. I predict that intermediate and advanced flatpicking guitar players will enjoy learning these arrangements and adding Roberto's ideas to their own arrangements of these popular tunes.

As the editor and publisher of *Flatpicking Guitar Magazine*, I've received numerous requests for arrangements of fiddle tunes for the solo flatpicking guitar player. Many of our readers spend a lot of time playing for themselves or family members at home with no accompaniment. As stated above, fiddle tune solos on the guitar that are arranged and written for the ensemble player sound very sparse in the context of playing solo. This book provides an answer to those players who are looking for written fiddle tune arrangements for solo flatpicking guitar.

I hope that you enjoy working with these arrangements. As Roberto states in his notes, be sure to let those notes ring! Have fun and keep pickin'!

Dan Miller Flatpicking Guitar Magazine

Introduction

I've been planning to write this book for several years. I grew up in Italy which, as you can imagine, is not a country with many flatpickers or bluegrass musicians. So I often find myself flatpicking along to records or by myself.

I started playing fiddle tunes without backup out of necessity, and I soon realized that I really enjoy it. There were some great flatpicking role models doing the same: Norman Blake and Dan Crary immediately come to mind. They inspired me and helped me discover and actually love the challenge of playing solo flatpicking.

This book is a collection of ten fiddle tunes arranged for the solo flatpicker. I have played some of these arrangements for years, and I even recorded a couple of these tunes on my CDs. Some arrangements are completely new. I would like to acknowledge some friends from the Flatpick-L list for recommending several of these fiddle tunes.

I would like to thank my wife, Marina Basso, for all her help and support. Without her this book would not have been possible. Thanks to my student Chiara Sbicego for checking the tabs and correcting them. Thanks also to all the musicians with whom I've played, each one has taught me something. Finally, thanks to Dan Miller and High View Publications for all of their help and support.

Roberto Dalla Vecchia

Roberto Dolla Vecda

Whiskey Before Breakfast



Arkansas Traveller

Tuning: DADGBE

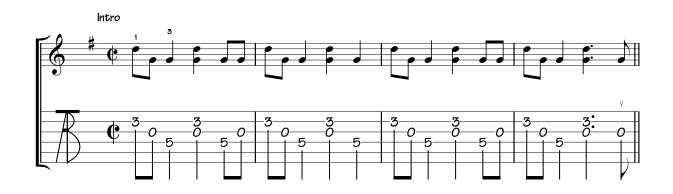


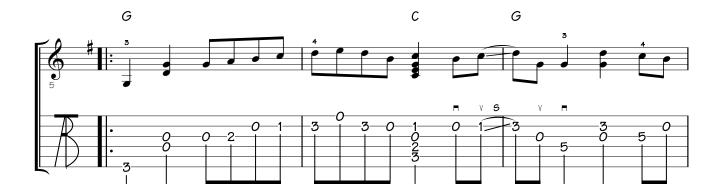
Bully of the Town

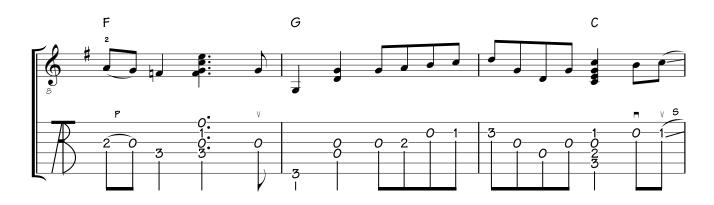


Red Haired Boy









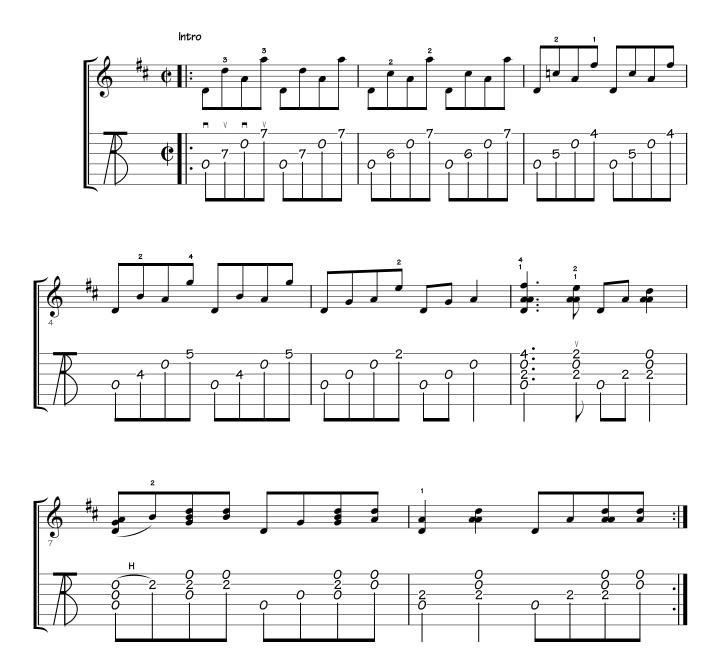
Fisher's Hornpipe

Tuning: DGDGBE



Angeline the Baker

Tuning: DADGAD



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ROBERTO DALLA VECCHIA

FLATPICKING GUITAR WITH ITALIAN GUSTO

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Acoustic guitar artist Roberto Dalla Vecchia draws deeply from his personal homeland to craft his melodic folk-bluegrass tunes. Based in Italy, Dalla Vecchia performs regularly at concerts and festivals and teaches workshops throughout Europe. He is the winner of *Acoustic Guitar Magazine's* 2003 Homegrown CD Award. His CD *Grateful* won second place in the Instrumental Album category of the 2009 Just Plain Folks Music Awards. Let his signature flatpick style guide you through an original and exciting repertoire of new standards for acoustic guitar.

The Vicenza, Italy-based artist learned classical piano as a child, but later embraced the guitar thanks to the meeting with flatpicking guitar guru Beppe Gambetta. Dalla Vecchia maintains a busy solo performance schedule at various venues throughout Europe. He toured nationally and internationally, performing at the Guitar Summit (Philadelphia, USA), Steve Kaufman's Kamp (Maryville, USA), European World of Bluegrass (Barneveld, The Netherlands), SBMA Winter Bluegrass Festival (Brugg, Switzerland), Risor Bluegrass Festival (Risor, Norway), Goldegger Blues & Folk Tage (Goldegg, Austria), Soave Guitar Festival (Verona, Italy), Acoustic Guitar International Meeting (Sarzana, Italy) among others. In addition to performing at concerts, festivals, community events, Dalla Vecchia runs his own Acoustic Guitar Workshop in Italy each year and teaches guitar workshops in Europe.

Dalla Vecchia released six CDs: Open Spaces (1998), Sit Back (2002), Grateful (2006), Unknown Legends (2008), Hand in Hand (2011), and Morning Lights (2012). Hand in Hand offers a rich and ingenious synthesis of American sounds and Mediterranean flavors, expressed with inventiveness and energy and full of instrumental precision, always arranged with an attentive eye to tradition.

His guitar work is also featured on various compilation CDs: *Flatpicking 2003* (FGM Records), *European World of Bluegrass* 1999 and 2001 - 2002 - 2007 (SCR Productions), *Country In This Country* (MAP Records), among others.

Dalla Vecchia's playing stands out as melodically inspired and meaningfully focused. His flair for the melody is strongly evident in his compositions, many of which are singable and memorable.

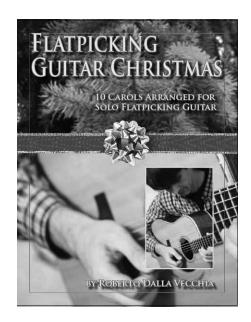
ALSO FROM ROBERTO DALLA VECCHIA:

Flatpicking Guitar Christmas: 10 Carols Arranged for Solo Flatpicking Guitar

Book and Audio CD By Roberto Dalla Vecchia

During the holiday season, it is not uncommon for guitar players to be asked by family and friends if they would play a few seasonal tunes. Unfortunately, most guitar players do not spend a lot of time practicing and learning these tunes. For a flatpicker, picking up the guitar and playing a Christmas melody without the accompaniment of other musicians is something that is typically outside of their comfort zone. But that doesn't have to be the case!

Italian flatpicking master Roberto Dalla Vecchia has now presented arrangements of 10 holiday favorites arranged for solo flatpicking guitar. With this new book, *Flatpicking Guitar Christmas*, you will be able to learn how to play full and rich solo guitar arrangement of ten of



the all-time most popular Christmas tunes. Additionally, a study of Roberto's solo flatpicking technique will allow you to then learn how to develop your own approach to solo flatpicking.

Solo flatpicking is a skill that relatively few flatpickers have mastered because most of their time is spent playing with other musicians providing accompaniment behind their lead lines. It is no easy task to present a full and rich solo guitar arrangement that provides melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic content when using a plectrum. Roberto Dalla Vecchia is one of the world's best at solo flatpicking and through study of these tunes you will learn how it is done.

Song List:

O Christmas Tree
Silent Night
Deck the Halls
Angels We Have Heard on High
Jingle Bells
What Child Is This?
Auld Lang Syne
Away in a Manger
We Three Kings
Joy to the World

This book is available in hardcopy and digital download formats at www.flatpick.com, or by dialing 800-413-8296

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