

2

MACROCOSMOS

GUITAR

50
Sequential
Etudes for
Finger Style
Guitar

ROGER PELL

Overview of Book 2

What is the most efficient way to learn to read and interpret musical notation for those using the fingers of the right hand to sound the guitar ? To find a proven method of instruction whose sequential format is graded from simple open string melodies to complex harmonic voicings.

To nurture reading and to interpret notation at sight, the musician needs to focus on reading a great variety of music on a regular basis. Accordingly these etudes should also be a form that advances kinetic technique.

Miniature etudes are ideal to fulfill our objective here when designed to transition from exercise into a musical form. By being short in duration each etude requires only a short time to read. By avoiding unnecessary reliance upon memory allows the repetition of pieces to be reduced.

Book 2 of *Macrocosmos for Guitar* accommodates all these requirements through a graded format of 50 etudes that embraces just the first five frets. The material is subsequently divided into four categories.

1. Etudes that use only open strings, i.e. techniques for the right hand only.
2. Etudes using two examples from each diatonic key.
3. Etudes inclusive of non-diatonic tones and permutations of *p i m a*
4. Etudes that evolve thematic character via intervallic content.

This particular approach has proven to be highly effective in its aspirations, with book 2 a reliable resource for all guitarists for more than 20 years.

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No 4

Adagio
mm 60

R Pell

m p i m i m p i p m a
p ② ④ ③ *f* ①

5 m p i p m i m p i Fine
p

9 i m i m
f Simi

13 i p m i a m a i a p a i
p *f*

Right Hand Fingers

p = thumb
 i = index
 m = middle
 a = ring

No in a circle ① = first string
 Tempo mm 60 = 60 beats a minute
 Dynamic *p* = play softly, *f* = play loudly
 Getting louder

Left Hand Fingers

0 = open string, No 4 is played only with the right hand fingers

No 19

Andante
mm 105

R Peil

The musical score is written for a vocal line and guitar accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 5/4. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a metronome marking of 105. The score consists of seven systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar line. The lyrics are: 'm i m p p m i m i', 'm i m i p m i p p', 'i m a m p i m a m i m i m', 'i p i p', 'a m a m i m', and 'Fine'. The guitar accompaniment includes various techniques such as fingerings (circled numbers), dynamics (p, mp, f), and a final chord with a 'Fine' marking. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

p m i m p p m i m i
mp (1) (2) (3) (6) (5) (1) (2) (3) (3)

p m i m i p m i p p
f (1) (2) (6) (5)

p i m a m p i m a m i m i m
(4) (1) (4) (1)

i p i p
p

a m a m i m
f

Fine

Pitch Class 1.2.
Larghetto.
mm 66.

R.L.Pell.

The musical score consists of seven staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The music is written in a style that combines traditional notation with fingerings and articulations. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. Articulations include accents (*a*), slurs, and breath marks (*p*). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4. There are also some circled numbers like 3.2 and 5.2. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.