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Mel Bay The Art Of Hawaiian Steel Guitar (Book & CD)



Synopsis

This book is an excellent study of the history and unique musical stylings of the Hawaiian guitar. Stacy Phillips successfully pinpoints the characteristics of Hawaiian guitar solos. A special feature is the inclusion of a superb historical survey of Hawaiian music. Written in tablature only, G tuning. DeWitt Scott comments: There are two types of Hawaiian music, the 'authentic' style and the 'tourist' style. Stacy is presenting the 'authentic' style and this is much needed to keep the Hawaiian music alive.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Having played Blues (Open E) and mostly C6th (Western/Jazz/Country) tuned lap steels I was curious to learn more about Hawaiian style lap steel. This book does a very good job in terms of content. Many traditional Hawaiian songs, tabs, and great history of the music is included. What I find a little odd is that so many of the songs are High G/Dobro Tuning (GBDGBD) - odd as that from I have found most the historically known Hawaiian Steel Players (as far as I can tell) did not use that tuning all that much. C6th, B11th and similar tunings were much more popular. There are some songs further in the book with these tunings. If you're a C6th player I would be prepared to change the strings on your lap steel (do to tension difference strings sets) or have a second (if you can afford it) to work with this book. Also, not all the songs are contained on the included CD. I guess they wouldn't all fit? The author has the excluded songs available on his web site for a modest amount.

Still this a very good starting point to learn Hawaiian lap steel so it's worth checking out. You will learn plenty.

I tried to futz around with Hawaiian slide guitar for about 2 months before I got this book. I picked out some simple melodies. Or I followed the cords to some tabs that i downloaded off of the internet. But I didn't really get anywhere until I got this book and cd. This set helps pull everything together. I suggest getting volume 1 and volume 2.....more songs that way!!!

It's a 5 star book. It will take some time to play along with the CD. But the back ground information of each song is very interesting and helpful. The tablature is very helpful in playing the exercises and melodies and understanding chord progression. I can highly recommend this book to every beginner to start out with.

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