

W a l t e r L u p i

Flatfinger®



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New perspectives for your right hand !

Nuove prospettive per la tua mano destra !

"In 1970 I started playing the electric guitar focusing on the rhythmic parts but after a few years I turned to the classical guitar, playing in this way for many years two different styles: strumming with the pick on the electric guitar and finger-style on the classic guitar. In my last Cds, "Zumiè" and "Sulle Corde dell' Anima" I began to play combining this two styles and the result is this technique I've called Flatfinger.

Well, what can we use it for?

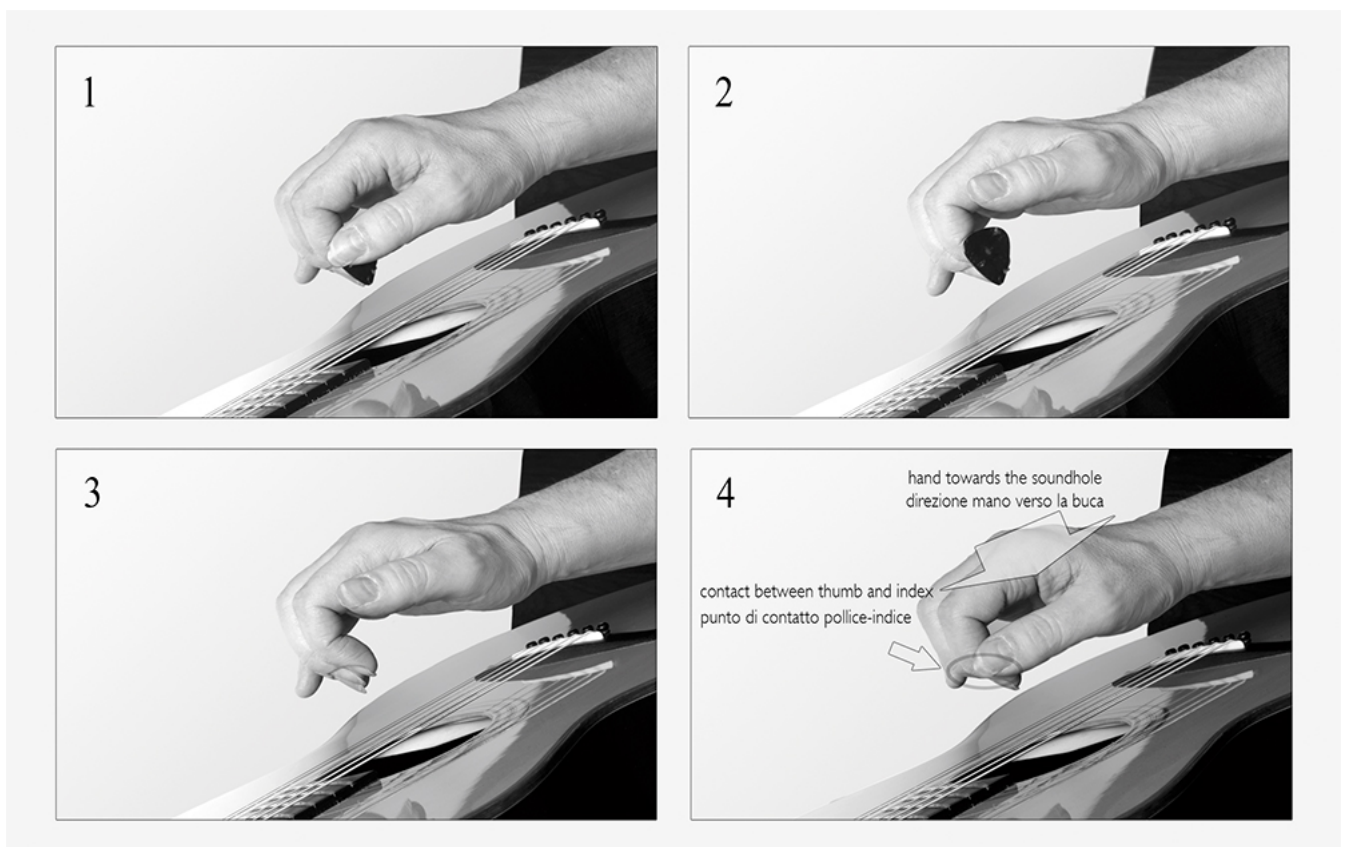
To strum, To play the melody and also improvise. All these aspects can be played together; it will depend on you!

So, what does Flatfinger mean?

It means the use of the tip of your index finger instead of a pick; look at the picture 1)

How does it work?

The main difference is that we also use the back of the nail to hit the strings on the down beat combined with the normal plucking on the up beat.



However, the biggest innovation of this technique, is the possibility with a guitar to "sing" the melody, almost like a human voice would, having at the same time a complete rhythmic and harmonic support; be able to exploit these 3 fundamental elements that compose a musical piece as one prefers, and play songs and compositions coming from completely different styles such as Pop, Country, Blue Grass, Reggae, R&B etc... using just one musical instrument. Needless to say, without this technique the final result would be barer and starker.

What are the advantages of using this technique?

A good example is represented by my arrangement of the traditional Freight Train;

a song that I put as example at the end of the method. This example represents a significant increase in the rhythmic support to the voice of the theme, having in add a more complete and richer sound on way to play.

Traditional picking, melody:

Freight's Train

♩ = 120

The score shows a melody in the treble clef and three guitar staves labeled T, A, and B. The tempo is 120 bpm. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The guitar staves show fingerings for each note.

Melody + Strumming:

♩ = 120

The score shows a melody in the treble clef and three guitar staves labeled T, A, and B. The tempo is 120 bpm. The guitar staves show fingerings and strumming patterns (indicated by dots) for each note.

Melody + strumming + percussion:

♩ = 120

The score shows a melody in the treble clef and three guitar staves labeled T, A, and B. The tempo is 120 bpm. The guitar staves show fingerings, strumming patterns (indicated by dots), and percussion marks (indicated by X) for each note.

Flatfinger on the melody line:

Freight's Train

The image shows two musical examples. The first, titled 'Freight's Train', consists of a melody line and a bass line. The melody line is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It features a sequence of chords marked 'a V' and 'i'. The bass line is written in bass clef and includes strumming patterns (indicated by '3' and '3') and percussion (indicated by '0'). The second example, titled 'C. V 1/2', also consists of a melody line and a bass line. The melody line is in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature and features chords marked 'a V' and 'V'. The bass line is in bass clef and includes strumming patterns (indicated by '5', '6', '7') and percussion (indicated by '3', '5', '7').

As you can see, with the Flatfinger you can give rhythm to the melody and percussion keeping unchanged bass, strumming and percussion.

What do these examples show?

The Flatfinger is, in effect, a sound tool that you can use to combine as you want melody, (Picking) rhythm accompaniment, (strumming) and sometimes drum's percussion on the bass, without losing your rhythmic feel...!

Now you have some basic elements that will help you to understand better what characterizes this technique. I left a blank page where you can write some notes that we could possibly investigate together.

If you are interested to know more about the method of Flatfinger buy now: <http://www.acoustic-music.de/>

Enjoy!

Walter