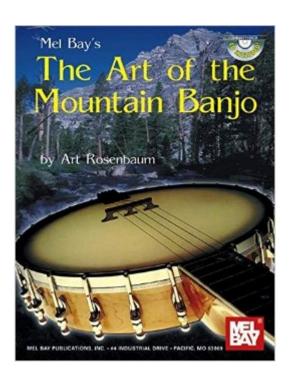
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The Art Of The Mountain Banjo





Synopsis

A complete survey of traditional banjo styles complete with tunings, playing tips, and the author's deft drawings. Progresses from easy tunes for the beginner to more difficult pieces. The styles include up-picking or Pete Seeger's basic strum; two-finger picking; three-finger picking; and what had variously been called frailing, clawhammer, knocking, rapping, overhand, fram-style, flayin' hand, and other Appalachian names, here called down-picking.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a really good update to the 1975 Kicking Mule label tablature book, with the 'complete sung lyrics' to the songs on both albums on the same label and the tablature printed is much cleaner and easily read, even if the old edition had quite readable hand-written tab for its time. One other great thing is that most of the liner notes from the original albums are printed along with instructions. I try not to repeat the other reviews, but this book & CD is one I always can go back to when I want inspiration in what to do with my music. There are many very nice & obscure banjo tunings & picking styles presented with most if not every part of the recorded tunes written out. Each time I pick it up there's something interesting that I didn't notice on earlier readings. --- The downside is that only the '2nd Vinyl album' "Art of the Mountain Banjo" (rec 1974 or '73, Kicking Mule) was on the included CD and this would probably not be a big problem if the first LP: 'Five String Banjo' (rec. 1972) had been reissued in some form and available, but it can only be found as a second-hand Vinyl, this is why the grade of 4 stars instead of 5.-- Unfortunately the preface by Art Rosenbaum (written in

1997) states that both albums are included on the CD, which they are not, and the missing LP is to my ears the better of the two. One good solution would be if Mel Bay added a download link for buyers with mp3s of this LP or helped forward a reissue request (seems to be 'Concord Music' who owns this particular album, because the Kicking Mule label was split up in the 90s) For reference the Five String Banjo LP was released as 'KM 108' and in the UK as 'SNKF 101 (Sonet label).

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