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Sunflower River Blues

by John Fahey

In this lesson we're going to be learning a great fingerstyle piece by American folk guitarist John Fahey. Check out the original recording (1967 version, at least I think it is):

John Fahey - Sunflower River Blues



Here's my video. You'll need to tune to open C which is C G C G C E from low to high.

Sunflower River Blues by John Fahey | Fingerstyle G...



Music and tab

I've written it out below. There are four parts: Intro, A, B and C and I've also included the little variation he sometimes throws into the B section. Listen to the recording to piece it all together. A printable PDF of the tab is available on [my Patreon page](#).

SUNFLOWER RIVER BLUES

ANYONECANPLAYGUITAR.CO.UK

JOHN FAHEY

OPEN C TUNING

$\text{♩} = 60$

INTRO - PLAY FREELY

Measures 1-3 of the intro. Measure 1: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 2: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 3: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open).

Measures 4-6 of the intro. Measure 4: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 5: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 6: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open).

Measures 7-9 of the intro. Measure 7: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 8: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 9: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open).

$\text{♩} = 180$

A SECTION - MAIN THEME

Measures 10-12 of the main theme. Measure 10: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 11: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 12: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open).

Measures 13-15 of the main theme. Measure 13: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 14: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open). Measure 15: Treble clef, C4 (open), G4 (open), C5 (open), G4 (open). Bass clef, C3 (open), G2 (open), C4 (open), G2 (open).

16 H 17 18

TAB 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0

19 20 21

TAB 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0

22 23

TAB 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0

24 25

TAB 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0

B-SECTION

26 H 27 H 28

TAB 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0

29 H 30 H 31

TAB 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0

C-SECTION

B SECTION FILL

More fingerstyle?

A few other fingerstyle lessons you might enjoy:

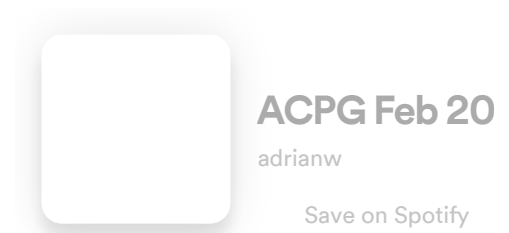
[Anji by Davey Graham](#)

[Freight Train by Elisabeth Cotten](#)

[Back to the Old House by The Smiths](#)

And if you're feeling Christmassy then here's the other Fahey lesson I did a while back: [Joy to the World](#)

ACPG February Playlist



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Barney Kessel Plus Big Band | 02:32 | |
| 3 | Ex Lion Tamer - 2006 Re...
Wire | 02:19 | |
| | Stock O'Loose | | ▼ |

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