

# FINGER-STYLE GUITAR HISTORY AND PERFORMANCE

MUSIC 478-001 FALL SEMESTER  
September 2-December 14, 2010

**Instructor: John Stropes**

**(Further information: 262-994-8710, [jstropes@uwm.edu](mailto:jstropes@uwm.edu))**

**Course meets Thursdays, 5:30 pm - 8:10 pm**

**Location: Kenilworth Square East 640, 1925 East Kenilworth Place**

**Fee: \$250\***

Students will learn intermediate finger-style guitar technique and repertoire by such guitarist/composers as Leo Kottke, Billy McLaughlin, Michael Hedges, Mississippi John Hurt, Big Bill Broonzy, Taj Mahal, John Fahey, Sonny Chillingworth, Preston Reed, and others. The performance requirements of the class are designed to be able to accommodate students at a variety of levels. Archival video and specifically designed pedagogical materials will enable students to study these pieces in depth.

This class includes lecture/presentations on the following topics: the development of finger-style guitar beginning with the renaissance guitar, vihuela, baroque guitar, and the first appearance of the six-string guitar in Europe in the 1770s; the divergence of classical and finger-style guitar in the 1920s; parlor style guitar; the development of the instrument; the development of written notation for the instrument; the use of alternate tunings on the guitar; country blues; Delta blues, Hawaiian slack-key; folk music in America, the folk boom of the 1960s; early country guitar; Merle Travis; Chet Atkins; the British Isles revivalists; and special presentations on modern icons of finger-style guitar John Fahey, Leo Kottke, and Michael Hedges. These lecture/presentations include rare, historic footage and contemporary video of performances and interviews.

**John Stropes** is the director of Guitar Studies at UWM. Through historical research, analysis, transcription, teaching, and performance of finger-style guitar, he has brought focus to this style. His publishing company, Stropes Editions, Ltd., has set a new standard for written music for the guitar and guitar education.

**To register:**

- Call the Peck School of the Arts Box Office, (414) 229-4308
- Stop by the Box Office, located in the Helene Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd. The box office is easily accessed from the parking lot to the south of the building; free 15 minute parking available directly outside the box office. Box office hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10 am-5 pm.

\*This is the non-credit fee. If you are a UWM student and would like to take the course for credit, please use PAWS to register online.



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