

Julius Finkbine's Rag

Livin' in the Past (1965)

See if you can guess the real title to this one. Hint: it's an old Texas fiddle tune. (Answer below.)

Taken from a live recording made at the peak of the Colonels' activity, this break will put your right hand through some anxious moments. I've given a couple of suggestions for the first line, but I'll leave you to your own devices in the syncopated passage in measures 9-10, and in the crosspicking section later in the tune.

Be sure to play the sixteenth-note pull-off (as in measure 4) very quickly so that the following note falls squarely on the off-beat. This kind of little flurry had become second nature to Clarence.

Measures 5-6: Clarence skips across the strings to play the low G note as a drone while the melody continues on the G and D strings. Starting on the fourth beat of measure 5, hold down the low G and the F above it with your left hand until the fourth beat of the next measure. He gets a similar effect in measure 27.

Measures 17-22: Again, hold the left hand positions so that the notes in the crosspicking patterns linger a while.

Measures 23-24: This phrase is a real cutey. The descending, then ascending line on the B string (8th fret, 7th, 6th, 7th, 8th) should be emphasized.

capo on 2nd fret

Traditional

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a treble clef staff for the fiddle and a guitar staff for the guitar. The guitar staff includes fret numbers and specific techniques such as pull-offs (P), slides (S), and hammer-ons (H). Chords are indicated above the staff: (C), G(7), and C(7). Measure numbers 5, 10, and 10 are placed above the guitar staff. The score includes various rhythmic patterns and techniques like crosspicking and drone notes.

answer: Beaumont Rag

F C G C

15

T (3) 1 2 1

A 0 2 3 2 3

B 3 0 2 3 2 3

G(7) C 20

20

T 4 2 1

A 0 3 2 5 3

B 3 5 5 3 5 3

G(7) C

20

T 3 1 2 1

A 0 3 4 5 3

B 3 5 5 3 5 3

25 G(7) C C(7)

25

T 4 1 4

A 0 3 2 5 3

B 3 5 5 3 5 3

F C G C

30

T 3 1 3/2* (V)

A 0 2 1 3

B 3 0 2 1 3

(etc.)

* Bend the lower note of the double stop with your second finger as you hold the top note steady with your index finger.