

Solo Close-up:

DAVID LINDLEY

By Peter Grant

INNOVATOR, TRAILBLAZER, madman of strings: David Lindley is one of the most versatile multi-instrumentalists you'll ever encounter. Perhaps best known as the longtime guitar anchor of Jackson Browne's touring band, David also is a frequent accompanist to Ry Cooder; and he fronts his own band, El Rayo X. In addition to acoustic and electric guitar, David is a master of banjo, fiddle, mandolin, and a dizzying assortment of odd Eastern European string instruments such as oud, bouzouki, and saz. (This fall David

is recording a solo acoustic album for MCA Records' new Master Series, which will document his work on a variety of instruments.)

He is particularly dazzling on slide and Hawaiian guitar. The transcription here is a solo piece entitled "Look So Good," from David's 1982 album *Win This Record* (Elektra/Asylum, 60178). He plays it on a vintage Weissenborn koa-wood Hawaiian guitar, in open *E* tuning, *E B E G# B E*. If you have his collected works, you will find David playing in the analogous open *D* tuning (*D_b A_b D_b F A_b D_b*) on *El Rayo Live*. Any tuning with the same harmonic relationship (lowest pitch to highest: root, 5th, root, major 3rd, 5th, and root) will work, including open *D* and high *G*.



STEVE SCOTTO

The piece is played slowly, with a free, ebb-and-flow rhythm called *rubato*. Rubato means "robbed" in Italian, so you actually "rob" time from one note and give it to another. Listen to the record to get a feel for David's timing; use the notated rhythm only as a guideline. Once you learn the piece, play it expressively and make it sing. ■

"Look So Good"

♩ = 60 — Rubato style

The score is divided into three systems, each with four measures. The guitar staff includes fret numbers and slide indications (marked with 's').

System 1 (Measures 1-4):
 Treble clef: 1/4 note G4, 1/4 note A4, 1/4 note B4, 1/4 note G4.
 Guitar staff: 0 2 4 7 | 5 7 | 7 | 7 9 7 | 7 2 4 | 0 | 4 2 0 |

System 2 (Measures 5-8):
 Treble clef: 1/4 note G4, 1/4 note A4, 1/4 note B4, 1/4 note G4.
 Guitar staff: 9 | 0 2 4 7 | 5 7 | 7 | 7 9 7 | 7 2 4 4 | 4 2 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 5 5 | 5 5 |

System 3 (Measures 9-12):
 Treble clef: 1/4 note G4, 1/4 note A4, 1/4 note B4, 1/4 note G4.
 Guitar staff: 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 9 | 9 | 9 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 7 | 5 |

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13

T
A
B

17

T
A
B

21

T
A
B