

LICK 19

Contrary-motion Turnaround

Turnarounds fall in the last two bars of standard 12- and eight-bar blues progressions, and this one, in the key of A, could be used in either form. I use fingerpicking throughout, with the thumb sounding all notes on the A and D strings, the middle finger used for the B string and the ring finger used for the high E.

In bar 1, a high A note is picked repeatedly, serving as the root-note pedal tone. The contrary motion is supplied by the combination of a

chromatically descending line on the D string played against a chromatically ascending line on the B string. Notice the rhythmic syncopation as well: starting on beat two, after two notes are sounded together, I pick the fourth and then the first strings in quick succession. This pattern is used throughout the turnaround. In bar 2, I play a very simple melody, first on the top two strings and then on the bottom two.

Techniques used: fingerpicking, finger slides, bends.

Moderately Slow ♩ = 90

fingerstyle

p = thumb m = middle finger r = ring finger

strum w/thumb

N.C.(A7) (A7/G) (D/F#) (F7) (A/E) ³ E7 ³ A5

2 5 3 5 4 5 5 3 0 2 0

0 5 5 4 4 3 4 2 0 0 2 0 3 4 2 0

p m r m r m r r m m m m p p p p p