Earl Scruggs: A Player's Guide with Bill Evans

A Peghead Nation 8-Lesson Workshop

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Week One: Earl with Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys, 1946-47

Recommended reading

"Earl Scruggs and Foggy Mountain Breakdown: The Making of an American Icon," by Thomas Goldsmith, 2019, University of Illinois Press, week one pages 27-43.

Recommended listening & viewing: Week One

Earl's influences

"Don't Let Your Deal Go Down," by Charlie Poole and his North Carolina Ramblers, 1925 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgpyFRwEWa4

"The Man Who Wrote Home Sweet Home Never Was A Married Man," Parker and Woolbright https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27VbHEfjcPs

VIDEO: Snuffy Jenkins demonstrates clawhammer, two-finger and three-finger picking in this video with Pappy Sherrill. Includes a fragment of "Cumberland Gap." https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgDYKoOeSOE

"Sally Ann / Sally Goodin' (medley)," Snuffy Jenkins from "American Banjo: Three-Finger and Scruggs Style," (Smithsonian Folkways) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIBCwfSYiKI

Earl with Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys 1946-47

Live Grand Ole Opry recordings with Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys. Newly discovered 12-minute audio, from at least two different performances, includes "Ain't Nobody Gonna Miss Me" and "Cripple Creek." Great audio quality in comparison to many of the live cuts currently available. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bB_BizOA10

"Will You Be Loving Another Man" with Bill Monroe, recorded September 17, 1946: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFSOqiUxdtk

"Blue Grass Breakdown" with Bill Monroe, recorded October 27, 1947: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gay1l pNOU

"Molly and Tenbrooks (The Race Horse Song)," with Bill Monroe, recorded October 28, 1947: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pK3kfq4y6Q