



Photo by Mac Carbonell

“Bob Carlin has done much to advance traditional banjo. Perhaps more importantly, he has also done much to keep it the same. Within the rather narrow ranges of sonority and texture in the banjo, Carlin is ingenious and sensitive enough to find an expressive medium without overstepping the limitations of the style.”

--Frets Magazine

Improve Your Clawhammer Banjo Skills At Any Level with Master Banjoist Bob Carlin

This all levels, hands-on workshop is proactive, taking into account the needs of each of the players in attendance. Its only goal is to improve, refine and sharpen your own skills. The workshop will start at the most basic level and work its way toward some advanced techniques by the end of the last session. Bob takes a methodical approach to the instrument, breaking playing down into small techniques easily learned by any banjoist. This makes the clawhammer style approachable and understandable to all. Carlin also shapes each workshop to the personal needs of those in attendance. In past sessions, participants have requested help with right and left hand technique, back-up for singing, fiddle tunes on the banjo, playing with a fiddler, how to play in jam sessions, Round Peak style, and banjo set-up. Players from beginners to advance will benefit from these sessions. For anyone who wants to explore the possibilities of clawhammer banjo, these workshops are for you.

Workshops with Bob Carlin are available in two and half hour increments, lasting a morning, afternoon or evening, over the course of a day, over several weeknights or a weekend.

Banjoist Bob Carlin has been offering performances, lectures and workshops for over thirty years. Probably the best known clawhammer style banjoist performing today, Carlin has taken the distinctive southern banjo style to appreciative audiences all over the United States, Canada, Western Europe and Japan. Carlin had largely left the solo arena in the mid-1990s after an invitation to join the band of songwriter John Hartford. For six years, Bob Carlin toured throughout the United States and Canada with Hartford, even accompanying John on a ten day Japanese sojourn. Since the death of John Hartford in 2001, Bob Carlin has returned to solo performing and appearances with other musicians.

Bob Carlin is a three-time winner of the late Frets Magazine readers poll, and has four Rounder albums to his credit. He has also produced two banjo videos for Homespun Tapes, a six cassette set for Ridge Runner, and authored the book Fiddle Tunes For Clawhammer Banjo. Carlin is currently producing a DVD set, Carolina Clawhammer, out later this year through Mel Bay Publications.



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