

Ted Greene Original Tunings

Overview and Excerpts

From his Personal Music Studies Files

OVERVIEW:

(The tuning #'s were assigned by the transcriber)

- Tuning #1: R-5-9-3-5-R (D-A-E-F#-A-D) Dadd9 tuning [Ted called this “Modern Tuning”]
Also check R-5-b7-3-5-R for having kind of a cross between this and normal dropped D tuning and regular concert pitch: B pedal on open 5th string when whole guitar is tuned low sounds like A pedal in normal pitch.
- Tuning #2: R-b7-9-3-5-R (D-C-E-F#-A-D) D9 tuning
- Tuning #3: R-b7-9-b3-5-R (D-C-E-F-A-D) Dm9 tuning (or Ebm9: Eb-Db-F-G-Bb-Eb)
[Ted wrote 6 pages dated 1986-02-20 & 21 that are his “2nd or 3rd Attempt at an Organization Plan” for this tuning. Ted *loved* this tuning and described it variously as: “My Bill Evans cum Andrews Sisters Bus, w/a Hitchin’ Early Herbie H. tuning”, “Sweet Tuning”, “Lovely Tuning”, “Tuning Amore Mi Soul”, “My Beloved Bill Evans Tuning”, “My Bill Evans ‘Shoot for the Stars’ Tuning”, “My Wonderful Tuning”, My Heaven-Sent Tuning”, and “My Gift-Tuning”]
- Tuning #4: R-5-9-3-R-3 — add9 with range
- Tuning #5: R-5-3-#5-R-b3(#9) — Tuned 3 or 4 keys lower too. Great for full orchestral voicings; use in lower keys.
- Tuning #6: R-b7-9-3-5-4
- Tuning #7: Tune low E to B, and low A to F# (also low E to C, and low A to G for more majory colors); and for the 7-string, tune the 5th string to C, 6th string to F#, 7th string to B.
- Tuning #8: R-3-5-7-R-3 (Ab-C-Eb-G-Ab-C) or use A on 6th string.
For sentimental reasons later: Discovered by tuning the top 4 the way the 2nd set of 4 was in my D [C E F A] D tuning, and then lucking on to the right basses through mistakes and trial & error, *observing* this on the 5th string by trying and *listening*. View this tuning as if the 1st string were a 2nd string (and the 2nd string as the 3rd) for ease of visual hook-up with how you see the neck. It’s still going to be a lot of work, but this will lessen the load. (The 1st, 2nd, and 4th are in the same relationship as the normal 2nd, 3rd, and 5th!!!) It will sound lower than concert, but so what? I like this. ☺
- Tuning #9: [b9]-5-3-5-7-9-3 ([A]-Eb-C-Eb-G-Ab-C), lowest note for 7-string guitars only. Or all up 1/2 step or all down 1/2 step.
New wonderful tuning...maybe the one that will endure for me...the one I’ve been looking for all these hundreds of hours. It will provide 2 low roots to support the wonderful rich clusters and other voicings upstairs. And it will have available the grand 3-5-7-R-9 (9-11-13-b7-R, 5-b7-9-b3-11 and friends) on the top 5!!! In 2 fingerings no less!
It’s beautiful in both a 6-string and 7-string sound (not the tuning, but the available voicings).
- Tuning #10: [b5]-R-6-R-3-4-6 or [b9]-5-3-5-7-R-3 lowest note for 7-string guitars only. Either of these is an arbitrary angle.

Prospective Tunings:

(A list of alternate tunings Ted made on 1983, June 13 - 14 and 1984, April 10)

6-String:

- 1) Regular
- 2) Regular, down whole step
- 3) Regular, up a whole step for Bach
- 4) Regular, with low D
- 5) Regular, with high D
- 6) Down whole step with low D (C concert)
- 7) Down whole step with high D
- 8) R-5-9-3-5-R
- 9) R-b7-9-3-5-R
- 10) R-5-9-3-5-3
- 11) R-b7-9-b3-5-R
- 12) Regular with 5th string down 8ve
- 13) ~~R-6-9-b3-5-R~~ (Some great sounds, but some key ones are lost, so....)
- 14) Regular down 2 whole steps (but a little or quite a little sharp to this)
- 15) R-5-3-#5-R-b3
- 16) R-5-b3-#5-R-b3
- 17) R-b7-b3-#5-R-b3 — like having top E to D and bottom E to B
- 18) R-5-3-6-R-#9(b3) — top E to D and bottom E to B
- 19) R-5-3-6-R-3 — top E to D and bottom E to B
- 20) R-5-3-6-R-11(4) — top E to D and bottom E to B

7-String:

- 1) R-5-b7-9-3-5-R
- 2) R-4-b7-9-b3-5-R [String 4, (the 9) is] the only change [addition] from regular [tuning]
- 3) R-5-9-3-5-R-3
- 4) b5-R-b7-9-3-5-R
- 5) 5-R-b7-9-b3-5-R
- 6) 4-R-b7-9-3-5-R — “Feels” like 2 strings in middle are 1/2 step higher, and 1/2 step lower than normal 3rd string
- 7) 4-R-b7-9-b3-5-R
- 8) R-5-b7-9-b3-5-R

George Van Eps:

- 1) 4-R-4-b7-b3-5-R
- 2) 5-R-4-b7-b3-5-R

Lenny Breau:

- 1) R-4-b7-b3-5-R-4
- 2) R-4-b7-b3-5-R-3

Possible New Tunings:

String: 6 - 5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1
 E - A - D - F# - A# - D#
 E - Bb - Eb - G - B - E
 E - A - Eb - G - B - E
 E - A - E - A - B - E
 E - B - E - A - B - E

Great: C - G - D - A - B - Eb (or E or F)

Tune the A down to E, and E down to A

PROSPECTIVE TUNINGS

6 STRING:

- ① Reg, Reg down whole step
- ② Reg up a whole step for Beck
- ④ Reg with low D
- ⑤ " " High D
- ⑥ Down whole step with low D (concert)
- ⑦ " " " " High D
- ⑧ R5935R ⑨ R67935R ⑩ R593R3

7 STRING:

- ① R67935R ② Reg with 5th st. down 8VE
- ③ R67935R (same great sound but some say ones are lost so...)
- ④ REG DOWN 2 WHOLE STEPS (but a little on quite a little sharp to trip)
- ⑤ R5935R3
- ⑥ R67935R
- ⑦ R67935R
- ⑧ R5935R3
- ⑨ R67935R
- ⑩ R67935R

"FEELS LIKE"
2 strings in middle are 1/2 step higher, 1/2 step lower than normal 3rd string

LENNY:
R67935R4
R67935R3

1-10-85
More 6 STRING

- R5B#5R63
- " " B3 " " "
- R67b3 " " "
- (R5 3 6 R #9(b3))
- (R5 3 6 R 3)
- (R5 3 6 R 11(A))

like having
top to D and
bottom to E

possible new tunings =

- 6 5 4 3 2 1
- E A D F# A# D#
- E Bb Eb G B E
- E A Eb G B E
- E A E A B E
- E B E A B E

GREAT: C G D A B E (or F)

TUNE the A down to E, 4E down to A

Tuning: A5935R down
a $\frac{1}{2}$ STEP

12.3.77

PLAY IN 4 groups
of NON-ADJACENT STRINGS

12.3.79

Dr D A E B A D

C/G F#G join C/A, also reverse
12 12 12 12 F forward
up

(E247) C#G A#G A#A#G G/G
9 12 12 12 12 12 12 12

12.3.79
7.14.81

35R TUNING MAJOR TYPES

The image shows three staves of handwritten musical notation for Major types. The notation includes various chords and scales, with red markings indicating specific notes or fingerings. The first staff is labeled '35R TUNING MAJOR TYPES' and contains a series of chords and scales, with red markings indicating specific notes or fingerings. The second staff continues the notation, and the third staff shows further chords and scales, also with red markings. The notation is dense and includes many accidentals and fingering numbers.

also check for having kind of a cross between this v normal dropped D tuning + REG CONCERT PITCH:
 95 97 93 5 R

B pedal on open 5th st. when whole guitar is tuned low sounds like A pedal in normal pitch

--- (Excerpt) ---

--- (Excerpt) ---

TUNING: R^b7935R BOTTOM 4 STRINGS 4-15-84

Handwritten musical notation for guitar, showing two staves with notes, accidentals, and extensive handwritten annotations including tunings, fret numbers, and guitar-specific terms like "FRENDS" and "overfret".

--- (Excerpt) ---

9 TUNING
 m6 (+A7) & m7b9 TYPES
 MIDDLE STAFF VOICINGS
 A(m)7/11b5 G#F7 E#F7 A#F7 C#F7 G#F7
 C(m)6/9 Bbm6 Gbm6 C(m)A7 Ebm6 F#m6 C(m)6/9 F#m6/9

NEW ORGANIZ. by OUTER 2 VOICES
 4-11-82

7-21-88. CONCERT
 Tuning: E b F G A b E b ... think: E D F# G# B E
 R b7 9 3 5 R up a 1/2 skip

Ray of E b
 Great N.Y. Childhood
 Urban
 Suburban
 theme
 and do
 in key
 of C too

Tuning #4: R-5-9-3-R-3 Add9

New Tuning (R593R3) ADD 9 WITH RANGE!

DOWN A TC or 2?
 with a JAZZ WALTZ FEEL
 E13b7 AA9 E11T AA7

DOWN
 CHROMATICALLY

VS
 R R
 R R
 R R

Tuning #3: R-b7-9-b3-5-R (D-C-E-F-A-D) Dm9 tuning (or Ebm9: Eb-Db-F-G-Bb-Eb)

Rb79b35R • TYPES MIDDLE STRING VOICINGS

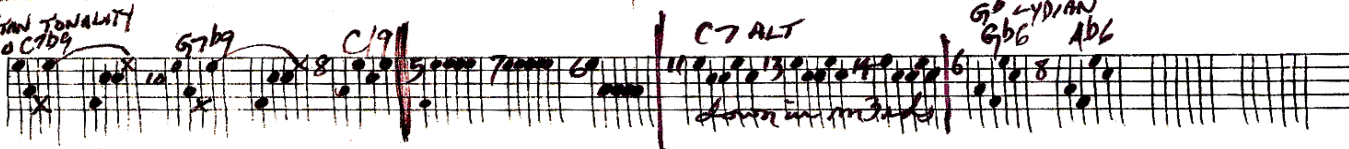
6-26-82
8-15-82



Rb79b35R
QUASI HINDUSTANI TONALITY
TO C7b9

PRACTICE PROG.

8-17-82



TUNING: Rb79b35R ← **MIDDLE STRING VOICINGS** - ORGANIZED & DISCOVERED BY SHAPE
USUALLY DOWN TO D or Db BECAUSE it will be able to be integrated into a reg tuning in a 7 string setup
MAJOR & ALT. MAJOR TYPES

6-26-82
8-15-82



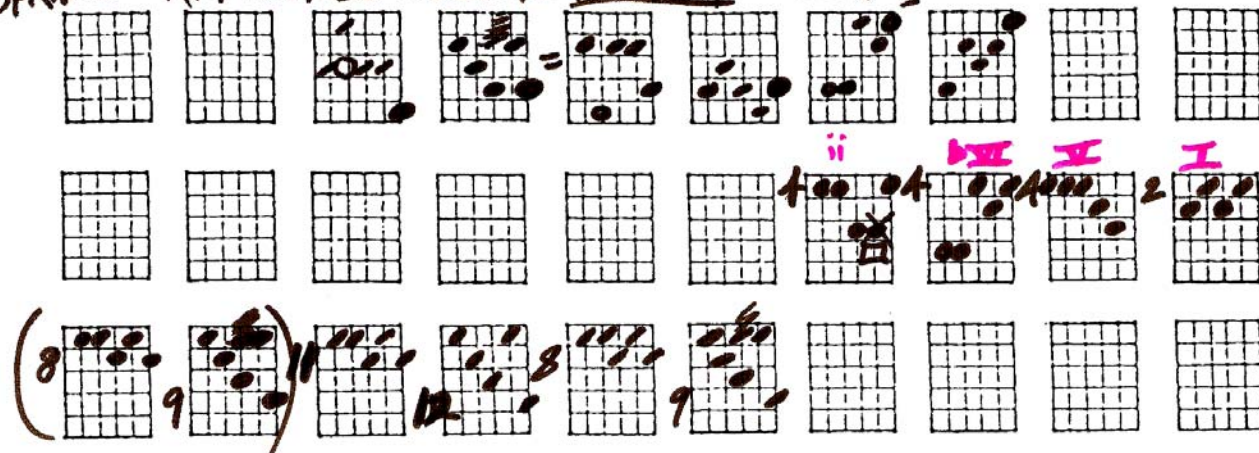
TUNING: D C E F A D → My Bill Evans cum Andrew
Eb9 C9 w/a HITCHIKIN' HERBIE H. SUTTERBUS
8-4-91
2:30 A.M.



IDEAS IDEAS IDEAS WOW

TUNING AMORE MI SOUL: D C E F A D
SOPRANO AFFINITIES IN SAME PRIMARY COLOR =

8-4-91



5-14-01 Early Morn.
My heaven-sent tuning: really getting off the ground now
DREAMED-OF CHORD PROGRESSIONS FINALLY SOLO GUITAR APP. 5 of the great tunes

From OUR LOVE IS HERE TO STAY
Key of E

1 3 times
3 times

F7#9#5 = 30 = 6

Wow

born. F13 3 4th on top = 30 = 30

Wow

Tuning #5: R-5-3-#5-R-b3(#9)

Tuning: R53#5Rb3
(GREAT FOR FULL ORCHESTRAL, V-1, (V-2), V-3)

MAJOR

5-18-84

G MAJOR TRIADS

Tuning #6: R-b7-9-3-5-4

TUNING: PR03 on bottom + str.

R07935+

Tuned 8

4.15.84

Handwritten musical notation on a staff. The notation includes notes, rests, and accidentals. Above the staff, there are handwritten labels: "F", "Gm7", "E6/9", "D67#11", and "max". Below the staff, there are handwritten lyrics: "for don't sleep in the slum", "slow (MERCY)", "MERCY", and "THE CUT".

Tuning #7: B-F#-D-G-B-E or C-G-D-G-B-E [?]

Great RICH LUSH CHORDS in this TUNING

8-3-86

Tune low E to B (also to C for more MAJORY colors)
 " " A to F# " " G for more MAJORY colors

and for the 7 string tune the
 5th str. to C
 6th " " F#
 7th " " B

Handwritten musical notation showing six chord diagrams. Each diagram is a 6-string grid with notes and accidentals. The diagrams are labeled: m9, m11, m11, m7, m9, and m9.

Handwritten musical notation showing three chord diagrams. Each diagram is a 6-string grid with notes and accidentals. The diagrams are labeled: F#7#9, E13, and E9.

Handwritten musical notation showing seven chord diagrams. Each diagram is a 6-string grid with notes and accidentals. The diagrams are labeled: A9, 6/9 #11, 1/9, 1/9, A9/5, 19/5, and Ab.

Handwritten musical notation showing three chord diagrams. Each diagram is a 6-string grid with notes and accidentals. The diagrams are labeled: G/9, Eb7#11, and Am7.

Handwritten musical notation showing four chord diagrams. Each diagram is a 6-string grid with notes and accidentals. The diagrams are labeled: 11, 13, 11, and 13.

Handwritten musical notation showing five chord diagrams. Each diagram is a 6-string grid with notes and accidentals. The diagrams are labeled: Fm, Eb, Fm, Db, and Ab. Above the diagrams is the text "SEA CHANTY".

NOTE: 2-20-87
 TUNING: 2-20-87
 DISCOVERED: 2-20-87
 7TH STRINGS ADDED IN BETWEEN WATER
 (SHOULD PARALLEL WITH THE 1ST STRING) THE 1ST STRING WERE 1 2ND STRING (and the 2nd as the 2nd)
 VISUAL FINDINGS: VIEW THIS TUNING AS IF
 FOR SENTIMENTAL REASONS LATER:
 DISCOVERED BY TUNING THE TOP 4 THE WAY THE 2ND SET OF 4 WAS IN TUNE
 DICE FAD TUNING
 and then looking on to the right
 because there must take a transition observing this on the 5th & 6th by tapping at 5th & 6th string
 w/low A string
 m4 types
 when using the 6th string extra low

NEW WONDERFUL TUNING maybe the one that will endure for me the one I'm looking for all these hundreds
 (A) E^b C E^b G A^b C IT WILL PROVIDE 2 low roots to support the wonderful rich clusters and other voicings upstairs! And it will have at least
 OR ALL UP 2-STEP all's beautiful in both a 6 string & 7 string sound the grand 357R on the top 5!!!
 2-20-87

[illegible]

NEW GREAT TUNING (from 2-87) **2-26-87**

LET'S GET THE 5 & 6 NOTE JUICY

DOMINANT CHORDS THRU 1) SUB-FAMILY by 2) STRING SET

THIS WILL WORK QUICKLY THEN Juxtapose the exact

EQUVALENT

DISCREPANCY UNDER different string sets

GROUP 1: 7/6(13⁹) 13 7/6 7/6 13no3 09

DOMINANTS TOP 5 STRINGS 1st

NO SENSIBLE STR. NOTE

OH OH!!! I JUST SAW THAT I GETTER INTERESTING

6 4 3 2 1 STRINGS SET VOICES RIGHT AWAY IF I'M GONNA DO A LOT OF WORK OVER AGAIN NEEDLESSLY AND 65432

also do list of Reverses w the TOP 2 VOICES

EX:

3-4-87

[illegible]

[illegible]