

# BLAINE SPROUSE PROGRAM AVAILABILITY

## Performances: Concerts and Social Events

### --Concerts

Blaine is available for solo performance or ensemble work, duets and larger. He is equally at ease in small clubs and intimate house concerts as he is in large auditoriums and amphitheatres.

### --Social Events (*weddings, corporate affairs, private parties, life-cycle events*)

Whether it's music to set the mood for that special occasion or to liven up corporate events, Blaine can tailor a program to meet your needs.

## Sessions and Soundtracks

Blaine has done extensive studio work for a diverse roster of artists. For a selected list, please refer to his online discography. He welcomes the opportunity to do film and television soundtracks or music for commercials.

## Instruction and Workshops

--Available for one-on-one lessons or for small group (*class*) sessions, **all levels**: novice, intermediate, advanced.

--*Workshops*. Interactive lectures and hands-on instruction in various fiddle styles including bluegrass, old time, country and western swing. Discussions about the history and development of fiddle styles. Focus on technique. Q&A encouraged. Students should have at least a beginner's skill level.

--*School programs*.

Pre-school through high school (lecture / demonstration / interactive)

College (lecture / demonstration / performance)

Lectures may cover: history of traditional fiddle tunes and their integration into American musical culture; tunes and styles as they were adapted from Scottish, Irish and other roots and incorporated into bluegrass; development of traditional fiddle music as influenced by other musical genres, such as Blues, Cajun, Cape Breton, Jazz and Big Band and; variations in styles as fiddle music became an integral part of Bluegrass music; non-bluegrass fiddle styles, i.e. Cajun, Western Swing, Jazz, Blues, Acoustic Swing, Folk, Rock and Country genres. Discussion of such iconic and influential artists as Stephane Grappelli, Joe Venuti, Vassar Clements, Benny Martin, Stuff Smith, Johnny Gimble, Bob Wills, Jean-Luc Ponty, Tommy Jackson, Buddy Spicher, Bobby Hicks and Kenny Baker.

--*Residencies and camps*.

Extended-stay programs (2-7 days) targeting intensive, hands-on instruction.

## SAMPLE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS (INDIVIDUAL, WORKSHOPS, RESIDENCIES)

### *OLD TIME FIDDLE BASICS*

- \* Simple old time tunes
- \* The basic shuffle
- \* Playing two strings at once
- \* Sample tunes:
  - "Angelina Baker"
  - "Turkey in the Straw"
  - "Get Along Home Cindy"
  - "Old Joe Clark"

### *CONTINUING OLD TIME*

- \* Advanced bowing patterns
- \* Open tunings
- \* Recognizing chord changes
- \* Sample tunes:
  - "Cluck Old Hen"
  - "Black Mountain Rag"
  - "Bonaparte's Retreat"
  - "Midnight on the Water"

### *BLUEGRASS BASICS*

- \* Constructing a bluegrass fiddle solo
- \* Bluegrass fiddle styles
- \* How to play in a bluegrass band
- \* Harmony and "double stops"
- \* Sample tunes:
  - "Blue Moon of Kentucky"
  - "Can't You Hear Me Callin'"
  - "Little Georgia Rose"

### *CONTINUING BLUEGRASS*

- \* Double shuffle bowing
- \* Second and third positions
- \* Sample tunes:
  - "Orange Blossom Special"
  - "Back-up and Push"
  - "Big Mon"
  - "Gold Rush"

### *COUNTRY BASICS*

- \* Constructing a country fiddle solo
- \* Country fiddle styles
- \* How to play in a country band
- \* Harmony & "double stops" in a country band setting
- \* Sample tunes:
  - "Alabama Jubilee"
  - "Please Release Me"
  - "Together Again"

### *CONTINUING COUNTRY*

- \* Distinctive attributes of country styles
- \* Performing in a country band
- \* Sample tunes:
  - "Faded Love"
  - "Take Me Back to Tulsa"
  - "Panhandle Rag"
  - "Crazy Arms"