

"Rock of Ages" Def Leppard

KEY NOTES

"Rock of Ages" is a study in down-strummed eighth notes. Power chords (aka "five" chords, like E5, D5 and B5) abound, but with some refreshingly different fingerings. The opening E5 and D5 chords, for example, are played on strings 2-4 rather than on 3-5 or 4-6. You'll have to use your 4th finger for this grip, but the resulting sound—wiry and taut, like Carmen Electra's abs—is worth the effort, especially when the hooky A5-G5 change introduces the lyric "What do you want?" which is shouted out, in typical '80s fashion, by the whole group. Likewise, the single-note line running under the chorus requires the use of all four fret-hand fingers. Next comes the



ALBUM
Pyromania
(Mercury)



guitar solo, which is relatively straightforward blues-inflected rock, but with a couple of '80s-metal pyrotechnics: first, pinch harmonics (P.H.), for which you'll choke up on the pick, allowing the tip of your thumb to nip the string; and, second, whammy-bar dives—a broad one applied to the G-string trill, plus whole-step dips on the 5th-fret harmonic that follows.

BIG PICTURE "Gunter, glieben, glauchen, globen!"—producer Mutt Lange's mock-German count-in—and the sound of a match being struck at the end of the song are just a couple of the pieces of aural candy that made "Rock of Ages" (and, in fact, all of *Pyromania*) one of the top sellers of the '80s. Def Leppard had no fear of keyboards, moderate tempos, strong group vocals, a huge

drum sound, and sing-along choruses. On the guitar front, the sound is crunchy but not overly distorted; push your clean channel hard or keep your overdrive channel around 4, and then add a compressor to taste. If you don't have a keyboard player, farm out the verses' eighth-note synth ostinato to your bass player—loan him your envelope wah and spare overdrive pedal if you must. —DOUGLAS BALDWIN

"Surfing With the Alien" Joe Satriani

KEY NOTES

With the 1987 release of *Surfing With the Alien*, Joe Satriani did the impossible—he made guitar instrumental music that appealed to the masses. The title track boasts Satriani's well-documented whammy-bar technique, at bar 22 of the solo, for instance, where Satch lays into one of his signature screaming pinch harmonics, on the "and" of beat 4, and then works the bar. First, to produce the harmonic, allow the fleshy tip of your pick hand's thumb to make contact with the open G string as you sound it with your flatpick—all the while cupping the whammy bar with your remaining fingers. Next, slowly pull up on the bar, raising the



ALBUM
Surfing With the Alien
(Relativity)



pitch a whole step, then quickly wrench it up another step before diving down. For the catchy G Dorian (G-A-B \flat -C-D-E-F) lick that starts at the end of bar 8 of the outro solo, quickly jerk the whammy bar back and forth. At the same time, fret the notes with your 3rd finger; lay your 1st and 2nd fingers over all the strings to eliminate unwanted string noise.

BIG PICTURE It's because of his lyrical, melodic phrasing that Satriani appeals to more than just guitar geeks. With this in mind, be sure to put as much time into the tune's main melody as you do its solos: play along with the track and really try to emulate every little nuance—each quarter-step bend, slide, and instance of vibrato—to capture Satch's style and finesse. Pay close

attention to the placement of your fret hand's thumb, making sure it stays behind the neck, pointed toward the headstock; this will help you smoothly play legato lines like the C \sharp Aeolian (C \sharp -D \sharp -E-F \sharp -G \sharp -A-B) lick that starts at bar 5 of the solo. To perform—nay, survive—the merciless whammy bar (ab)use, it'd be best to have a Floyd Rose-style vibrato system (with a locking nut) set up to float. —CHRIS BUONO



ROCK OF AGES

As Recorded by Def Leppard
(From the Mercury Recording PYROMANIA)

Transcribed by Adam Perlmutter

Words and Music by Joe Elliot, Richard Savage, Richard Allen, Steve Clark, Peter Willis and Robert Lange

0:12

Intro

Moderately ♩ = 96

Chords: E5, D5, B5, A5, D5, E5

1., 2., 3.

Gtr. 1 (dist.)

f

TAB: 5 5 5 5 3 3 | 4 4 4 4 2 2 | 4 4 4 4 2 2 | 5 3 5 3 | (3) 5 3 | (3) 5 3 | 2 2 2 2 0 0

0:39

Verse 2

E5

0:57

Pre-Chorus 1

A5 G5

Rhy. Fig. 1

A5 G5

E5

G5

Rise up, gather 'round...

7

TAB: 10 8 | 10 8 | 10 8 | 2 2 | 7 5 | 7 5 | 2 2 | 7 5 | 7 5

A5

E5

End Rhy. Fig. 1

1.

2.

3

TAB: 10 10 10 10 | 2 2 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

1:31

Chorus

last time, Gtr. 2 tacet

C5

5

Em

Rock of ages...

TAB: 5 4 2 0 2 | 3 3 3 3 | 5 4 2 0 2 | 5 4 2 0 2 | 5 4 2 0 2 | 5 4 2 0 2

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To Coda

A7 C5

1:58

Interlude

E5 D5 B5 A5 D5

2:07

Verse 2

I'm burnin', burnin'...

w/ bar

2:25

Pre-Chorus 2

Gtr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1

What do you want?

Gtr. 2 (dist.)

Guitar Solo

Gtr. 1 tacet

E5

2:37

P.H.

Gtr 1: w/ *Rhy. Fig. 1 (1st 2 bars)

A5 G5

*let E5 chord ring 2 bars

D.S. al Coda

3:31

⊕ Coda

Outro

Lyrics

Verse 1

Rise up, gather 'round,
Rock this place to the ground.
Burn it up, let's go for broke.
Watch the night go up in smoke.
Rock on, rock on, drive me crazier.
No serenade, no fire brigade,
Just a pyromania, c'mon.

Pre-Chorus 1

What do you want, what do you want?
I want rock 'n' roll, yes I do.
Long live rock 'n' roll.
Let's go, let's strike a light,
We're gonna blow like dynamite.
I don't care if it takes all night,
Gonna set this town alight, c'mon.
What do you want, what do you want?
I want rock 'n' roll, yes I do.
Long live rock 'n' roll.

Chorus

Rock of ages, rock of ages.
Still rollin', keep rollin'.
Rock of ages, rock of ages.
Still rollin', rock 'n' rollin'.
We got the power, we got the glory.
Just say you need it, and if you need it say...

Verse 2

I'm burnin', burnin', I got the fever.
I know for sure, there ain't no cure,
So feel it, don't fight it, go with the flow.
Gimme one more for the road.

Pre-Chorus 2

What do you want, what do you want?
I want rock 'n' roll, yes I do.
Long live rock 'n' roll.