

# PEGAO

By Jose Feliciano  
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Transcription by Eileen Blass

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IMPROVISE

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IMPROVISE

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# Transcription Notes for Pegao

*by Eileen Blass*

The original version of Jose's instrumental composition Pegao was released on the "Fireworks" album in 1970. It was again released on the "Second Thought" album in 1997. The transcription for guitar that I have done is based on the original recording of Pegao. Please remember that the fingering and position advice to follow may not be the EXACT fingering that Jose uses, but it's probably very close. Since we all possess different ranges with our fingers, you need to play it the way it is comfortable for you.

There are some differences in the two recordings, mainly in the improvisation between measures 79-87. The original version featured a longer improvisation. However, I have noted 8 measures of improvisation which is more like the newer version. In the new version, there is an A-minor arpeggio added in measures 33, 65, 67, 69, 102, 104, and 106. This arpeggio is not noted in the transcription, so if you wish to add it, you may. Also, in the newer version, measure 21 has a different passage with a trill, and this passage is repeated several times throughout the piece.

The introduction is measure 1-16, which you should play slowly. In measure 5, you can add a trill to the first A in the measure. You can do this on the first note of the 9th measure too. In measure 17, there are four beats of percussion at a faster tempo to begin the body of the piece. The first three beats of the percussion are raps on the guitar (I use the thumb on the wood above the sound hole). The fourth beat is a placing of the right hand on the strings in a dampening manner. If you do this, then you will be in place to attack the first notes of the piece. If you try to do four raps on the guitar, then you won't be in position to begin! Listen carefully to the recording and you will hear Jose do this.

And now for some additional position and fingering help. The most economical position for the start of measure five is the V position. Then slide down to the III position for measure 6. In measure 10, barre the III position, and use the 2nd finger on G# and the 3rd finger on B. In measure 31, use the lower E string open and the triad at the top in the IV position. Use a half-barre in position V on the A-minor chord at the end of measure 31. In measure 38, barre position VII. In measure 50, you return to the key of C. For the improvisation in measures 79-86, I have left open for you to be creative. Listen to both versions to see how this piece has evolved!

Enjoy!