

on meeting again after a long absence
for one unamplified guitar

luke martin / june 2022

tune the guitar to any just intonation major, minor, or neutral triad such that all notes are present.

with fingers, play open strings quietly to somewhat quietly and very slowly.

perhaps two or three notes per minute.
each ringing for a moment or more, then gently dampened.
one at a time.

once in a while, a longer pause between notes.

once in a long while, a 12th fret harmonic may be substituted for an open string.
this should ring out and fade naturally.

for a long time, making sure each open string is played at least once.

three versions, plus variations

1. major only
2. minor only
3. neutral third only

any combination of the above (same root).

for example: M-m, m-M, M-n, n-M, m-n, n-m, M-n-m, m-n-M, n-m-M, n-M-m, etc.

for combination-variations retuning occurs silently and without disturbing the pacing of the piece.
it should be done by feel & ear as best as possible and may take as long as needed.

tuning

major: 1/1, 5/4, 3/2

minor: 1/1, 6/5, 3/2

neutral: 1/1, 11/9, 3/2

any octave is fine as long as the ratios remain the same.

major triad: root = 1/1, major third = 5/4, fifth = 3/2

example: if the root freq is 100 Hz, then the third is $100 \times 5/4 = 125$ Hz & the fifth is $100 \times 3/2 = 150$ Hz.

minor triad: root = 1/1, minor third = 6/5, fifth = 3/2

example: if the root freq is 440 Hz, then the third is $440 \times 6/5 = 528$ Hz & the fifth is $440 \times 3/2 = 660$ Hz.

neutral third triad: root = 1/1, neutral third = 11/9, fifth = 3/2

example: if the root freq is 256 Hz, then the third is $256 \times 11/9 = 312.888\dots$ & the fifth is $256 \times 3/2 = 384$ Hz.