

Scott Feiner

Pandeiro Workshops

The *pandeiro* is considered to be Brazil's most complete percussion instrument and is used in practically every style of Brazilian music. It's a hand drum that you can carry under your arm, and yet, can sound like an entire percussion ensemble or drum set. The pandeiro tends to intrigue and seduce the people with whom it comes in contact with; hence its popularity continues to grow around the world. As a result, it has been finding its way into other cultures and musical settings and the possibilities seem endless.

Beginners Workshop

Students will be introduced to the pandeiro and its musical possibilities. Proper playing technique, including the importance of posture and stretching, will be discussed. Students will learn how to generate the pandeiro's basic sounds and exercises will be presented to help develop the necessary coordination of the left and right hands. Some of the main concepts that will be presented and focused on are that of the importance of the holding hand to aid the striking hand as well as the technique of creating bass tones with one's fingertips. The main references for this style of playing are masters such as Jorginho do Pandeiro and Marcos Suzano. Along with exercises, this technique will be applied to several rhythms, such as *baião*, *samba*, *maracatu*, 6/8 and funk. Other more traditional approaches to the pandeiro will be discussed as well and demonstrated via rhythms such as *partido-alto* and *samba*.

Intermediate/Advanced Workshop

For those already familiar with the pandeiro, basic Brazilian rhythms, and with at least a basic level of experience in using movement in the holding hand as well as generating bass tones with the fingertips (as opposed to only with the thumb). Creative concepts will be presented such as the isolation of the different tones on the pandeiro within a given rhythm. The concept of isolating tones will also be discussed within the realm of soloing. Steady, precise holding-hand rotation will be strongly emphasized. More elaborate versions of essential rhythms such as *baião*, *samba* and *maracatu* will be presented, as well as non-Brazilian rhythms such as 12/8 shuffle and more intense funk patterns. Odd-time rhythms will also be discussed, such as playing in 5/4, 5/8 and 7/4, 7/8.

Workshop format

These workshops can be formatted depending on the situation and needs of the students and/or organization involved. They are usually at least two hours in length and can be as in depth as a two-day event.





About Scott Feiner

Scott Feiner, a native of New York City, moved to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2001 to be closer to the pandeiro. His main source for learning the instrument was in the *rodas de samba & choro* of Rio, as well as from masters such as Jorginho do Pandeiro, Celsinho Silva and Marcos Suzano. Scott eventually started to work as a professional *pandeirista* in Rio, impressing the cariocas with his sense of swing and ability to transcend the fact of being a gringo playing such a Brazilian instrument. Over the last few years he has had the chance to play with some of Rio's finest musicians in the samba and choro scene, including, **Wilson das Neves, Nelson Sargento, Moacyr Luz, Wilson Moreira, Beth Carvalho, Teresa Cristina, Trio Madeira Brasil, Hamilton de Holanda, Paulo Sergio Santos** and **Yamandú Costa**. He has also played next to some Rio's top percussionist, such as **Mestre Trambique, Marcos**

Esgueleba and **Marcio Bahia**. Scott recorded on the debut CD by the samba group **Casuarina**, released by the label Biscoito Fino.

Scott's "pre-pandeiro" musical experience was that of a jazz guitarist. He received a Bachelor of Music Degree in Jazz Studies/Guitar at the Hartt School of Music in 1990 and performed extensively in the New York jazz scene with many of New York's finest players.

In 2006 Scott released his CD **Pandeiro Jazz** on the Brazilian label Delira Música, highly recognized around the world for its innovative sound, combining the pandeiro with jazz. With his New York based band (**Joel Frahm, Freddie Bryant & Joe Martin**) he has performed at clubs such as **Smoke** and **Jazz Standard** in New York and will be performing at the **Pori Jazz Festival** in Finland in July, 2006. His Rio de Janeiro edition of the group (**Marcelo Martins, João Castilho & Alberto Continentino**) has performed at many of Rio's top venues, such as **Mistura Fina** and **Centro Cultural Carioca**.

Scott has given numerous pandeiro workshops during his visits back to the US and also teaches privately, both in Rio de Janeiro and outside Brazil. For more information on Scott, please visit www.scottfeiner.com. He's also the creator of www.pandeiro.com.

"Just when you thought that there was very little someone could introduce to the world of jazz, here comes this New York-born musician with a pandeiro in his hand to prove otherwise ... *Pandeiro Jazz* is an innovation which deserves a wider audience."

— **All About Jazz-New York**

"It makes me happy to see an American musician playing jazz on the Brazilian pandeiro as well as Scott does. It opens new frontiers."

— **Marcos Suzano**

"Mr. Feiner treats the pandeiro as an expressive jazz instrument..."

— **The New York Times**

