

ADVANCED **FUNK** STUDIES

CREATIVE
PATTERNS
FOR THE
ADVANCED
DRUMMER
IN THE STYLES
OF TODAY'S
LEADING
FUNK
DRUMMERS

..also includes transcriptions of many well-known recordings.

CDs Included

RICK LATHAM

"Advanced Funk Studies is excellent. The book is well written and the Tapes are so helpful. This will cause me to practice a little more."

Louie Bellson
Author, Clinician
World renown Drum-set artist

"I would recommend Rick Latham's book Advanced Funk Studies to all serious drummers. The notation is extremely well thought out and easy to read."

Jim Chapin
Author, Teacher
The Father of Drum-Set Independent

"Latham's book Advanced Funk Studies is one of the best books on the market dealing with contemporary Funk-Rock techniques. It is helpful to all drummers."

Ed Shaughnessy
Author, Teacher, Clinician
NBC Orchestra, The Tonight Show

"Advanced Funk Studies is a well written and informative addition to drum set literature. You have done a great job of capturing today's drum-set style."

John Beck
Percussion Instructor
Eastman School of Music
Timpanist, Rochester Phil.

"I am very happy to endorse this most interesting/enlightening book ... The sticking alone makes the patterns fun to play."

Colin Bailey
Teacher, Author, and Clinician

"A valuable addition to the area of percussion instruction literature. The recorded material makes the book an especially powerful teaching aid while still allowing sufficient latitude for the student to develop his own styles."

Harold A. Jones
Associate Professor of Music
East Carolina University

"Rick Latham's concept on Funk Drumming is a necessary addition to drum set study. The material is pertinent and challenging..."

Robert Schietroma
Coordinator of Percussion
North Texas State University

"All of the beats sound good and "Cook". There are all two few quality books in this area. Yours is excellent and contains many original ideas."

Henry Okstel
Instructor of Percussion (Drum set)
North Texas State University

*"I think there is a need for a book of this type in advanced playing...
...the excerpts are challenging and interesting."*

Ron Fink
Associate Professor and Author
North Texas State University

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RICK LATHAM

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Music notation hand engraved by Rick Latham

TO

Harold A. Jones
...for his inspiration

About the Author

The success of his best-selling drum text, *Advanced Funk Studies*, launched Rick Latham into the international percussion spotlight. However, it has been his expertise as a versatile performer that has made him one of contemporary drumming's most respected players.

Rick started drumming at the age of twelve. Initially self-taught, his ears led him to such powerful rhythm and blues influences as the hit Motown and Atlantic label recording artists of the day.

Playing club dates during his high school years in North and South Carolina, Rick attended to the technical aspects of drumming, but his primary focus was playing the "groove." Later, while earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Percussion Performance at East Carolina University, he expanded his rhythmic and percussion related vocabulary, studying mallets and timpani under Harold Jones. It was during this period that he performed with such jazz greats as Bill Watrous, David Samuels, Jerry Coker and David Friedman.

In 1977, he was granted a teaching assistantship at North Texas State University, where he taught mallets and snare while working on his Masters Degree in Percussion with Robert Schietroma and Ron Fink, and studying drumset with Jim Hall. The inspiration and knowledge Rick gained from these instructors prompted him to create *Advanced Funk Studies*. A text of original concepts, transcriptions of recorded works by his favorite drummers, and accompanied by audio cassettes, *Advanced Funk Studies* was an immediate hit, establishing itself as a leading source of reference with drummers and educators the world over. After his years at NTSU, he began realizing his dream of becoming a professional touring musician in 1979 and toured extensively throughout the United States and Canada. He returned to Texas in the early 80s. In Dallas, he became a member of R&B "Bass Legend" Chuck Rainey's band *Rainey Man* and continued his career as a session player and sought-after sideman with such greats as bluesman B.B. King.

In 1984, Rick relocated to Los Angeles, where he has since enjoyed the opportunity of performing with a long list of leading figures including rockers Edgar Winter, Rick Derringer and Pat Travers, as well as jazz guitarist Howard Roberts. His versatility has also been highlighted with such top entertainers as Rita Moreno, Ben Vereen and Redd Foxx, in addition to his contributions on the theme for television's "9 to 5" series, "Fame," the Quincy Jones produced soundtrack *Fast Forward* and more recently the DVD release of *Gone in 60 Seconds*. In 1990, he released his second successful book *Contemporary Drumset Techniques* and soon afterwards the much anticipated instructional videos that parallel these works.

He has firmly established himself as a world-class artist. Appearances at such major gatherings as Germany's Koblenz International Drummer's Meeting and the Frankfurt Music Messe, the United States NAMM shows, Switzerland's Montreux Jazz Festival and numerous performances throughout Europe and Asia have provided the uninitiated with the opportunity to witness one of the new masters of contemporary drumming.

In addition to maintaining a full playing schedule in Los Angeles along with doing sessions and teaching, Rick involves himself with producing and leading his own jazz group *Rick Latham and The Groove Doctors*. For more information please visit his web site at <http://www.ricklatham.com>.

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PREFACE

The purpose of this book is to give the advanced drummer some insight into the techniques involved in playing today's Funk and Fusion Music. The patterns in this text are to provide the player with a working knowledge of style and feel to develop his own ideas. The information within is merely a means to an end.

I have used a "stems up" notation which I think will be helpful in interpreting the patterns, since traditional notation sometimes tends to be confusing. The cassette tape that accompanies this book will serve as an invaluable aid in the realization of the patterns set forth.

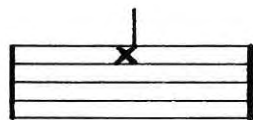
Many of the patterns are styled after some of today's leading funk drummers such as Steve Gadd, Harvey Mason, and David Garibaldi. Others are direct transcriptions from recordings as indicated.

The first section of this book contains exercises which employ various techniques necessary to master the patterns that follow. These exercises will be divided into three types; those dealing with (1) the Hi Hat, (2) the Snare Drum, and (3) the Bass Drum.

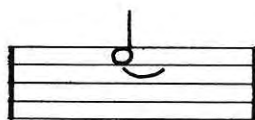
Many of these patterns will not be mastered in mere minutes. Begin them at a slow tempo, paying close attention to **accents** and **sticking**. Remember to always maintain the evenness and flow of the pattern at any tempo.

EXPLANATION OF NOTATION

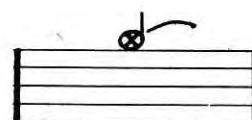
The notation used in this book is basically standard percussion notation. I have used some symbols with which the reader may be unfamiliar.



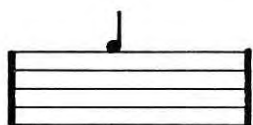
HI-HAT



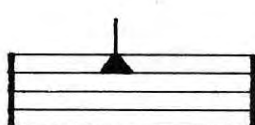
OPEN HI-HAT



CYMBAL



BELL OF CYMBAL



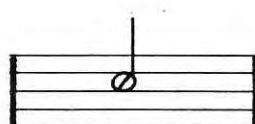
COW BELL



SNARE DRUM



SMALL TOM-TOM



MIDDLE TOM-TOM



FLOOR TOM-TOM



BASS DRUM

FOUR BASIC HI-HAT OPENINGS



Open on the beat,
closed on next beat.



Open on "and" of beat,
closed on next beat.



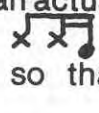
Open on "e" of beat,
closed on next beat.



Open on "ah" of beat,
closed on next beat.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Many of the patterns in this book, when first played, will seem very straight and stiff. It will take a short time to achieve the proper style and feel of each pattern. Here are a few basic suggestions that will help in achieving a good sound and feel.

GHOST STROKES — Sometimes it will be necessary to **GHOST** certain strokes. This simply means that the stroke is more implied rather than actually sounded. A good example of this practice is shown in the pattern, . The Hi-Hat on the “and” of the beat should be barely audible, so that the pattern sounds like .

DOUBLE STROKES — When playing **unaccented** double strokes, be sure that they are even and match or balance in volume level.

DOUBLE STOPS — When playing a combination of both hands or hand(s) and foot (feet) together be sure there is one sound, **not** a flam effect.

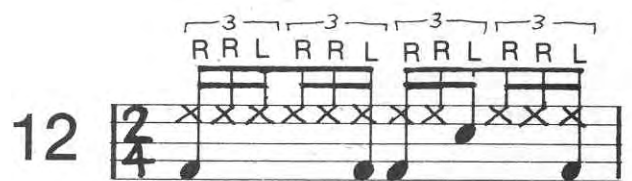
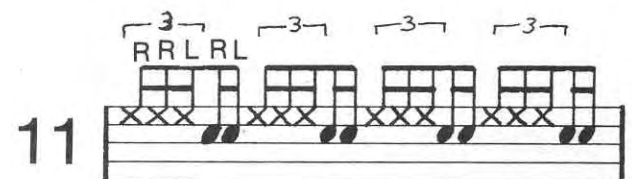
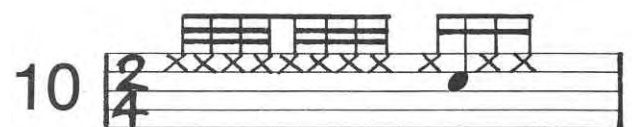
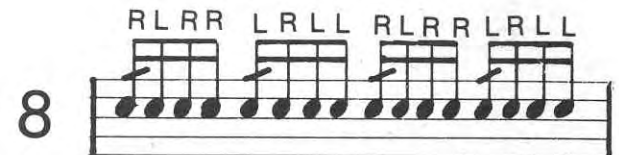
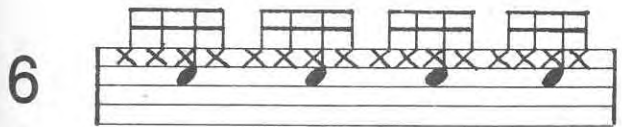
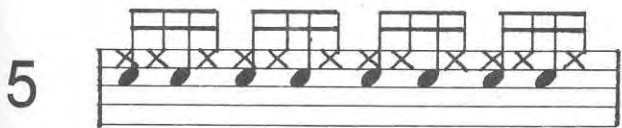
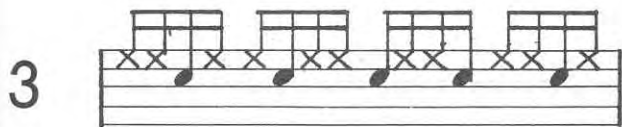
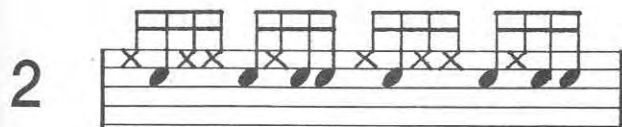
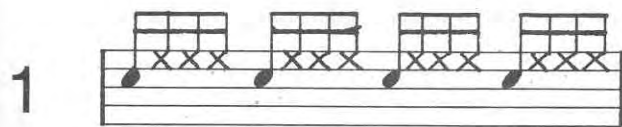
All exercises with no time signature are in 4/4 time—all other time signatures are notated.

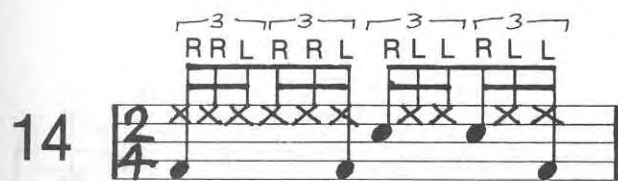
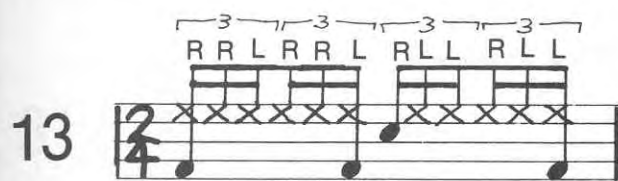
In the Funk Patterns, Transcriptions, and Solos—only special sticking will be indicated. All other sticking will be right hand on Hi-Hat, left hand on snare drum.

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES

The following exercises deal with different combinations of the Hi-Hat, Snare drum, Bass drum, and Tom-Toms. The sticking should be strictly followed; this will be helpful in achieving the correct sound and feel of the exercise. These stickings will also be helpful in learning the patterns and transcriptions that follow.

Some of the exercises will not have sticking indicated. These should be practiced right hand on Hi-Hat, left hand on Snare Drum and left hand on Hi-Hat, right hand on Snare Drum. These will be indicated throughout the book by*.





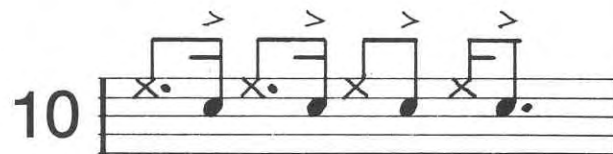
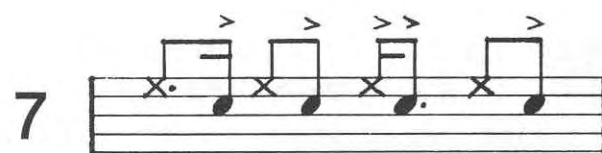
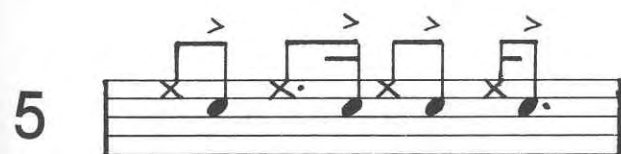
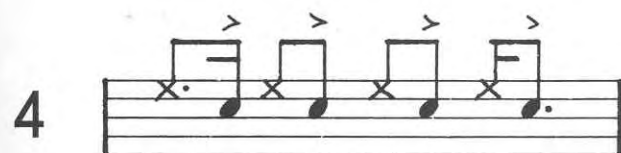
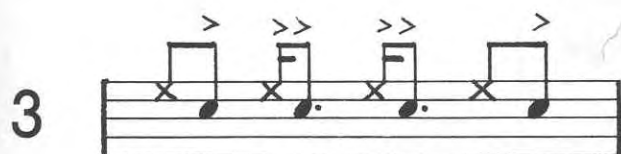
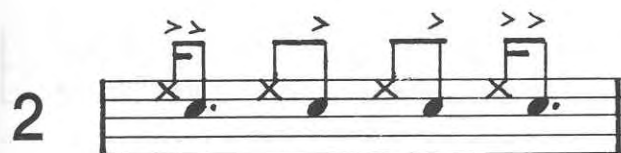
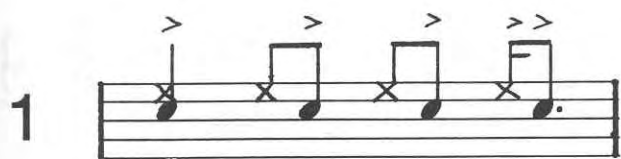
FIXED HI-HAT PATTERNS

This next group of exercises deals with four basic Hi-Hat sticking patterns found in Funk Drumming.

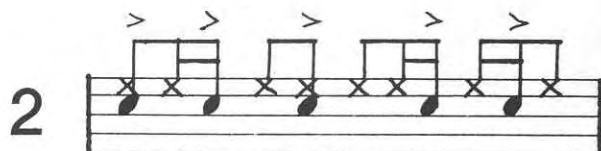
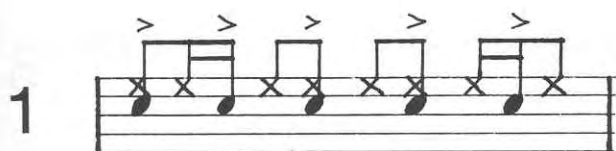
- (1) Hi-Hat plays quarter notes
- (2) Hi-Hat plays eighth notes
- (3) Hi-Hat plays on the "and" of the beat (off beat)
- (4) Hi-Hat plays sixteenth notes on the "and-ah" of the beat

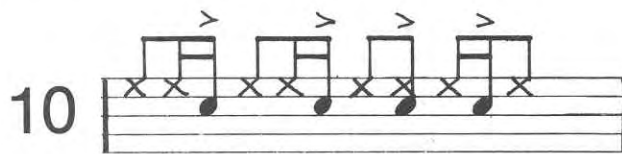
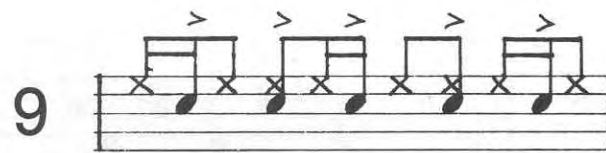
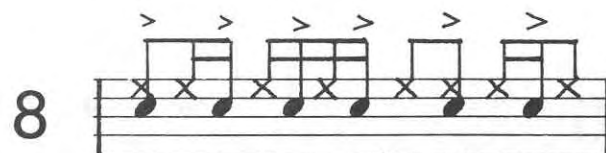
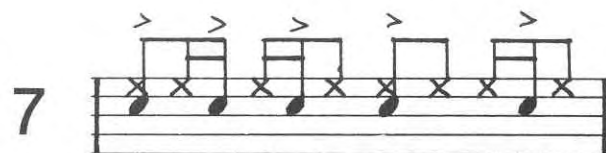
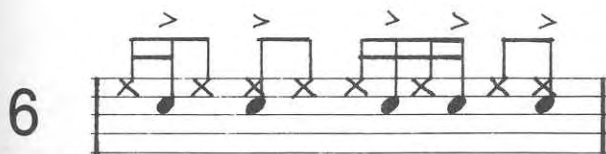
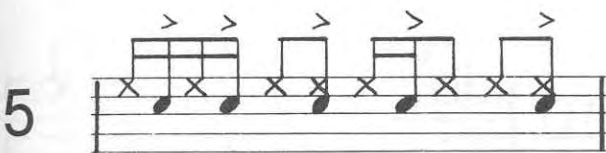
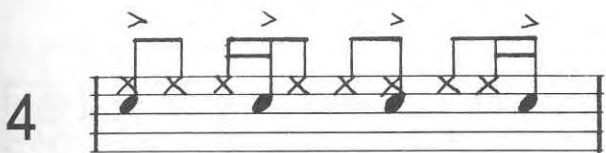
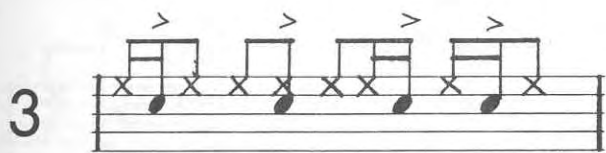
For a more effective feel, play a Bass Drum dotted eighth-sixteenth or Samba pattern with these exercises.*

HI-HAT QUARTER NOTES



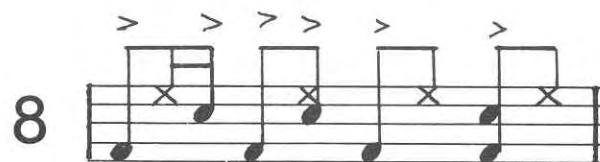
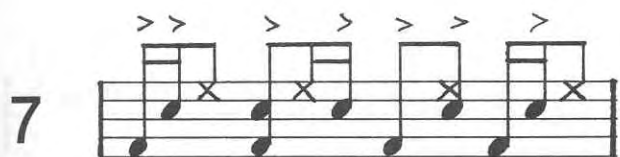
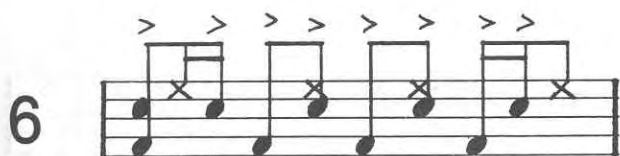
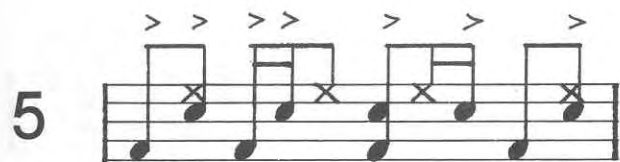
HI-HAT EIGHTH NOTES



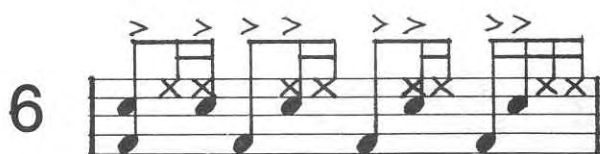
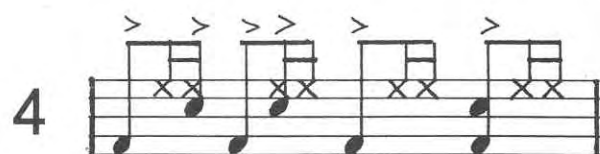
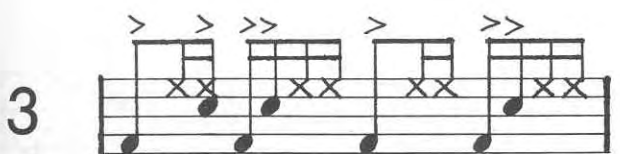
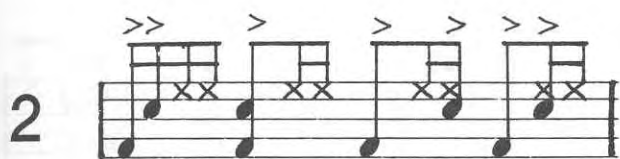
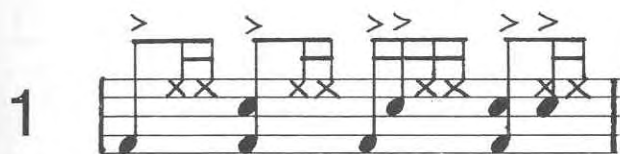


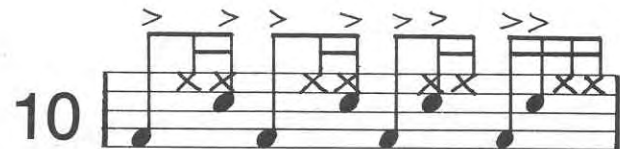
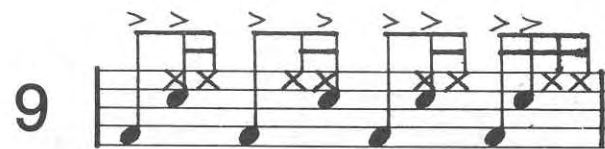
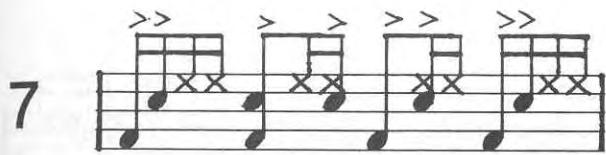
HI-HAT OFF BEAT





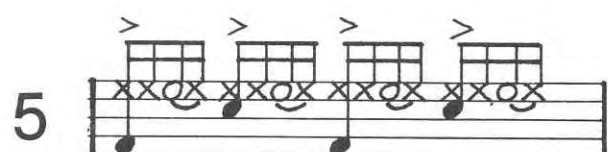
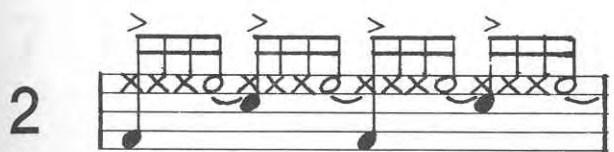
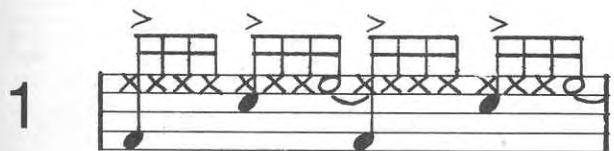
HI-HAT SIXTEENTH NOTES (and-ah)

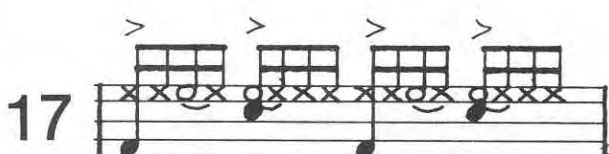
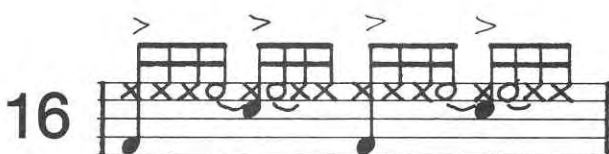
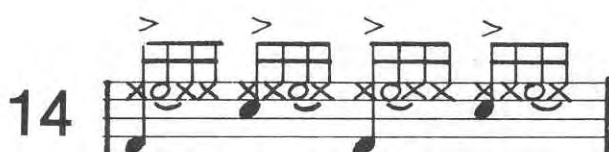
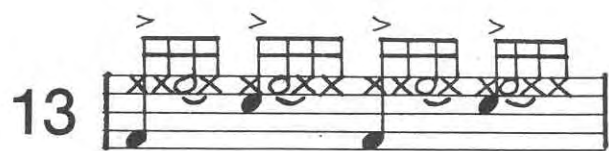
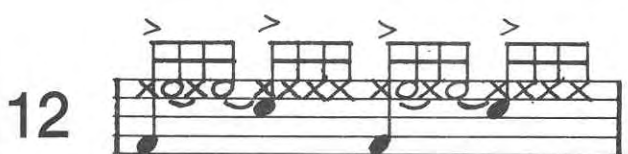
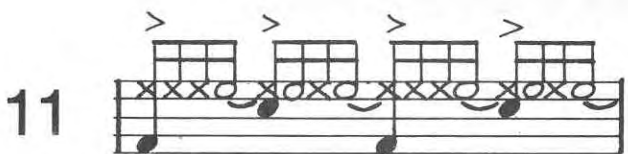
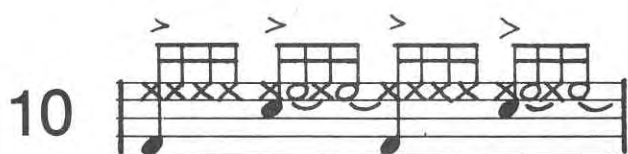
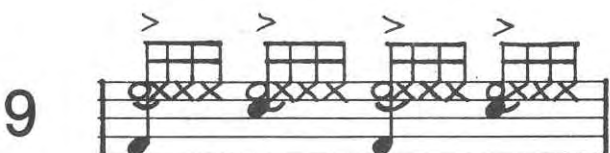
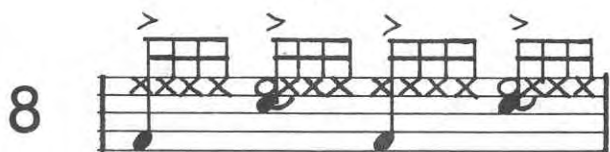
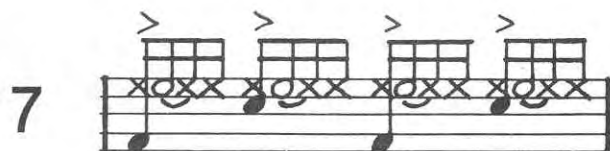




HI-HAT OPENINGS

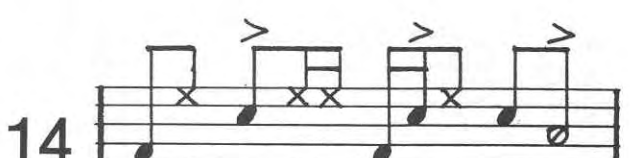
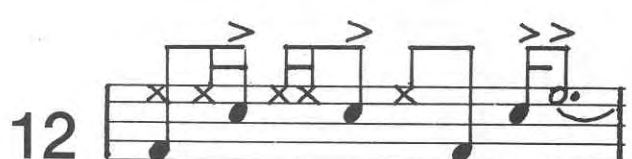
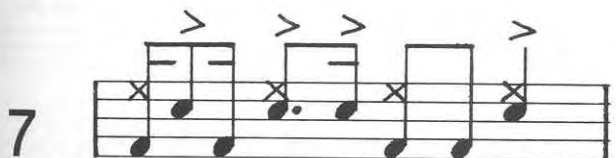
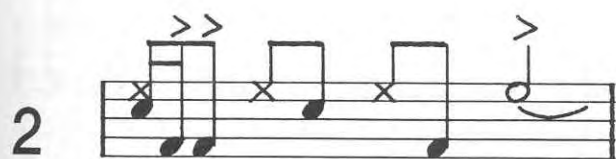
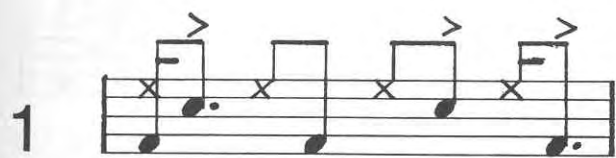
These exercises deal with opening the Hi-Hat on different parts of the beat, creating the **SHUP...** sound.* Also try these using alternating sticking.

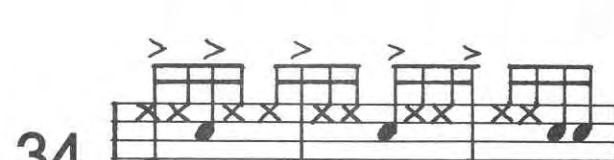
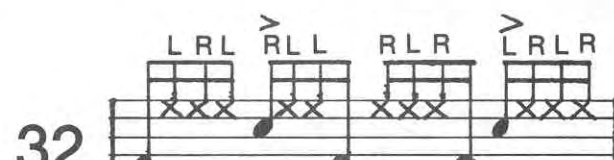
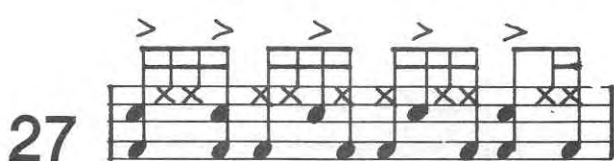
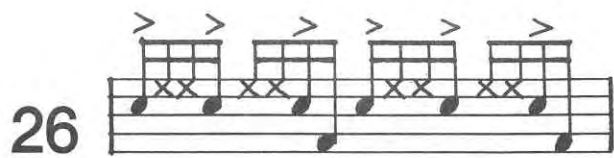
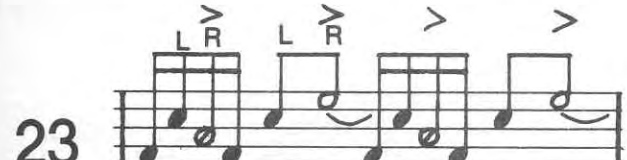
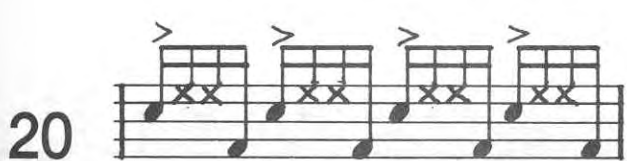
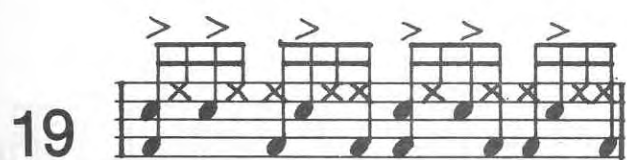
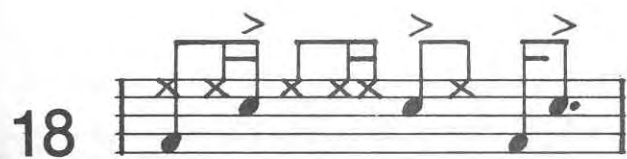
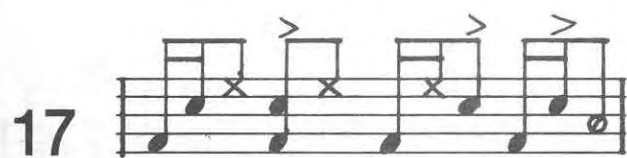




COMBINATION EXERCISES

The combination exercises deal with what has been covered thus far; different placement of the Hi-Hat, Snare Drum, Bass Drum, and Tom-Toms, as well as sticking problems.*





FILL PATTERNS

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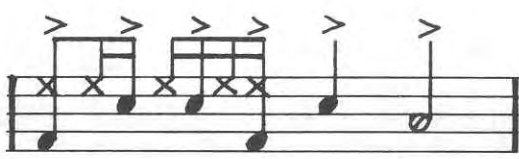
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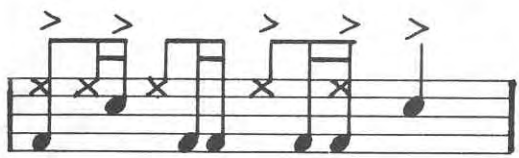
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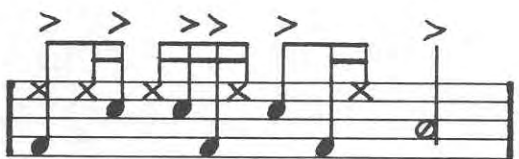
FUNK PATTERNS

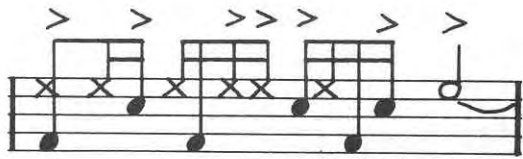
This section ties everything together in the form of patterns, one or two measures long, that can be used in a performance situation. A majority of these patterns can be used in some of today's Funk-Disco tunes.

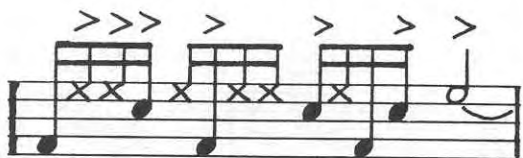
Many of the patterns work well at several tempos. On the cassette they will be played at the tempo I have found most effective. Remember to start these patterns at a slow tempo, paying close attention to sticking and accents.

1 

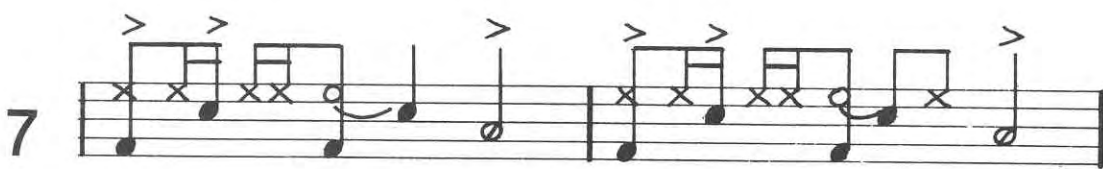
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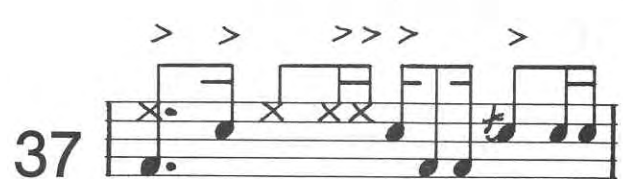
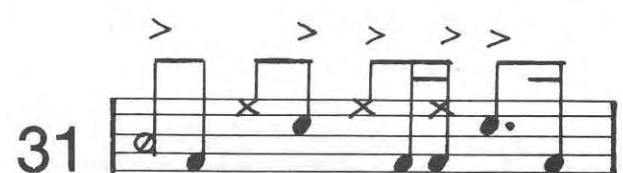
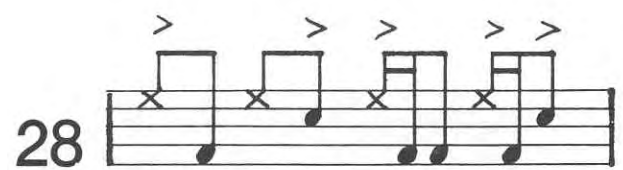
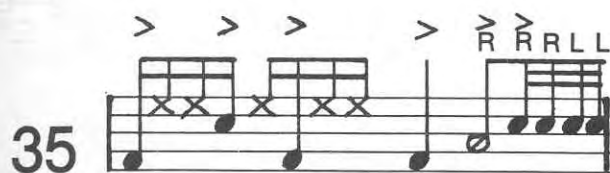
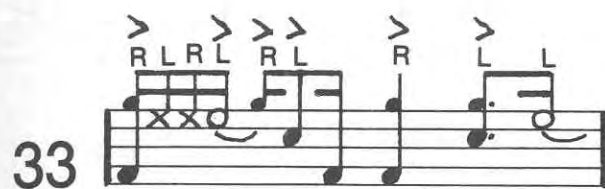
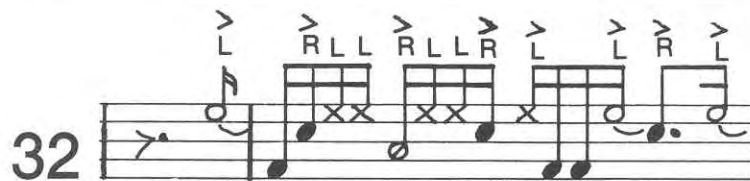
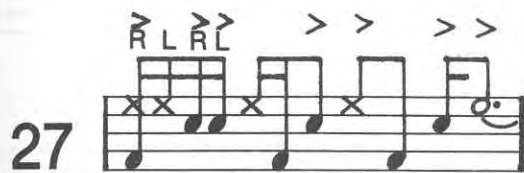
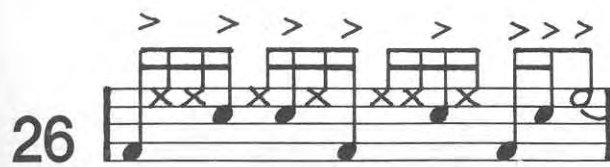
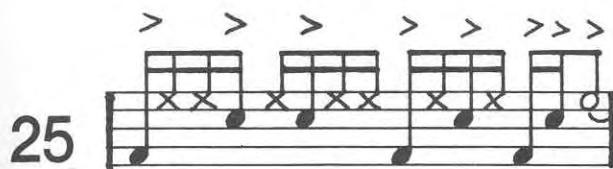
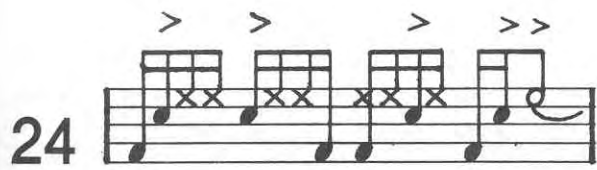
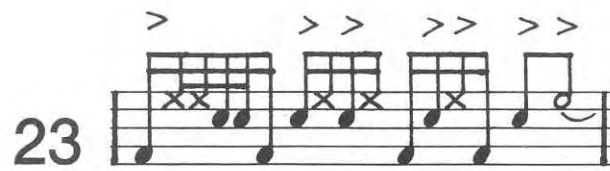
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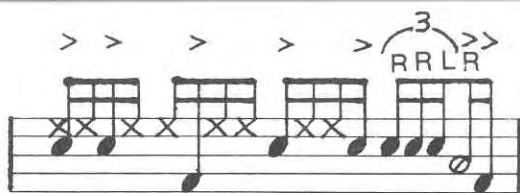
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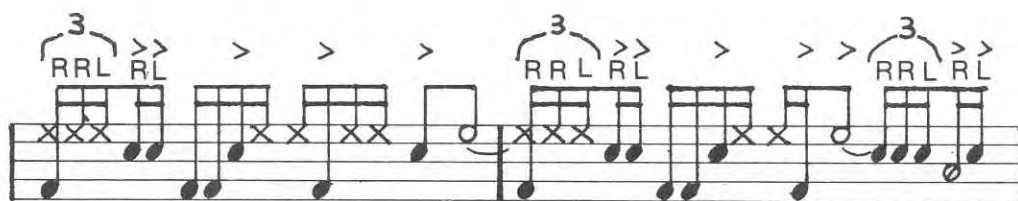
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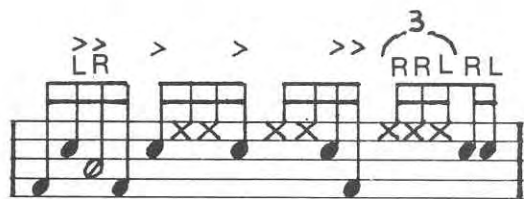
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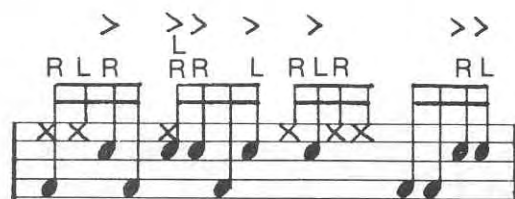
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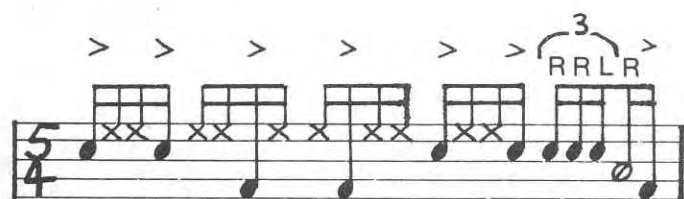
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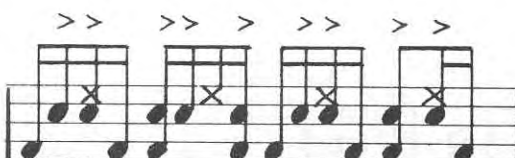
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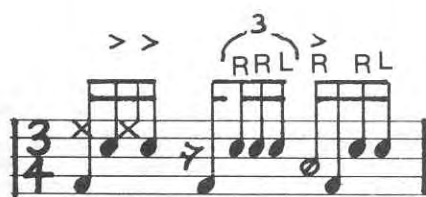
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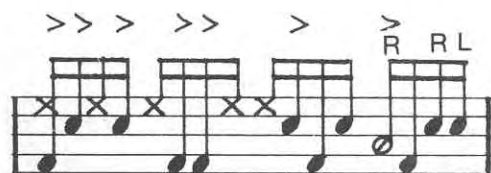
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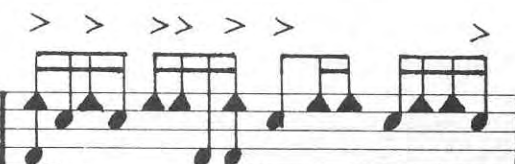
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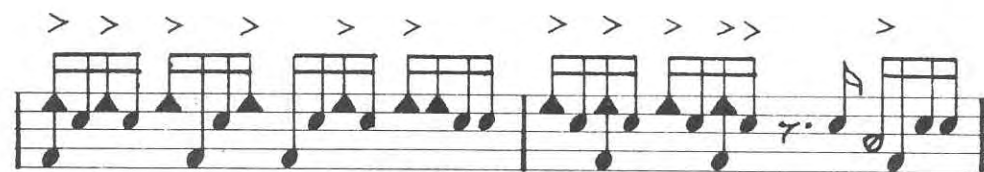
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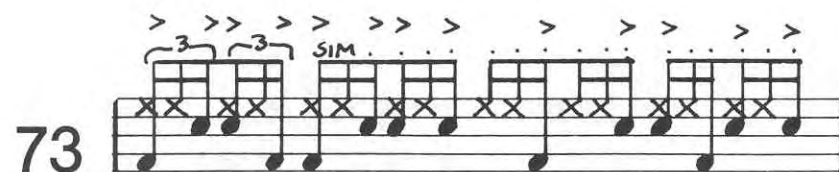
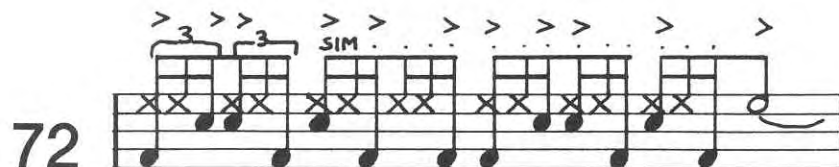
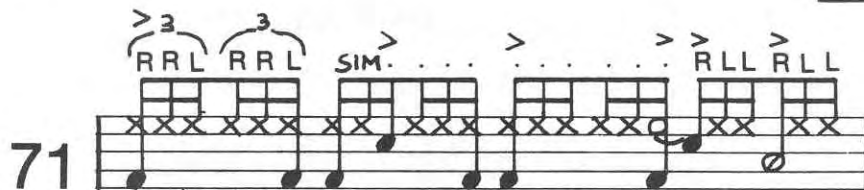


67



68





TRANSCRIPTIONS

The following beats and solos are some of my favorites that I have transcribed over the last few years. These are to give you some understanding of the style and technique used by some of the top Funk Drummers today and to help develop your own style and technique.

I hope that you will find them enjoyable and useful.

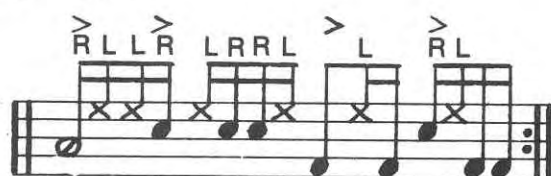
STEVE GADD

- 1 "50 Ways To Leave Your Lover" From Paul Simon; **Still Crazy** ♩ = 100



- 2 "Lenore" from Chick Corea; **The Leprechaun**

A ♩ = 126



B ♩ = 120



- 3 "The Musician" from Chick Corea; **Music Magic** ♩ = 104



- 4 "I Love Wastin' Time With You" from The Brecker Brothers; **Back to Back** ♩ = 116



- 5 "I've Got The Melody" (Deep In My Heart)" from Kenny Loggins; **Celebrate Me Home** ♩ = 116



6 "Midtown Rush" from Tom Scott; **New York Connection** ♩ = 104

A

B

7 "Dirty Old Man" from Tom Scott; **New York Connection** ♩ = 92

8 "Looking Out For Number 7" from Tom Scott; **New York Connection** ♩ = 184

9 "Touchdown" from Bob James; **Touchdown** ♩ = 112

A

B

10 "Seven Steps To Heaven" from Ben Sidran; **The Cat And The Hat** ♩ = 126

Musical notation for "Seven Steps To Heaven" by Ben Sidran. The piece is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 126 beats per minute. The notation is written on a single staff and consists of three lines of music. The first line contains a triplet of eighth notes, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various rhythmic markings (accents, slurs, and triplet markings). The second line continues the pattern with more complex rhythmic figures, including a triplet of eighth notes. The third line concludes the piece with a final rhythmic figure and a double bar line.

11 "Hop Scotch" from Jeremy Steig; **Firefly** ♩ = 98

Musical notation for "Hop Scotch" by Jeremy Steig. The piece is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 98 beats per minute. The notation is written on a single staff and consists of a single line of music. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various rhythmic markings (accents, slurs, and triplet markings). The piece concludes with a double bar line.

12 "If You Want It" from Bobbi Humphrey; **Freestyle** ♩ = 108

Musical notation for "If You Want It" by Bobbi Humphrey. The piece is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 108 beats per minute. The notation is written on a single staff and consists of three lines of music. The first line contains a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various rhythmic markings (accents, slurs, and triplet markings). The second line continues the pattern with more complex rhythmic figures, including a triplet of eighth notes. The third line concludes the piece with a final rhythmic figure and a double bar line.

13 "Skat Talk" from Mark Colby; **One Good Turn** ♩ = 98

A

B

14 "Dream" from Esther Phillips; **Capricorn Princess** ♩ = 138

15 "This Time Tomorrow" from Neil Larsen; **High Gear** ♩ = 98

A

B

DAVID GARIBALDI

16 "Ebony Jam" from Tower of Power; **In The Slot** ♩ = 108

17 "On The Serious Side" from Tower of Power; **In The Slot** ♩ = 116



18 "Squib Cakes" from Tower of Power; **Back To Oakland** ♩ = 108

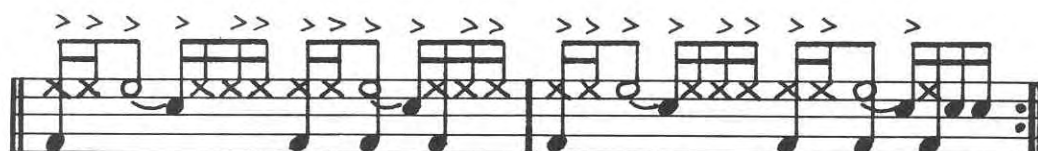


HARVEY MASON

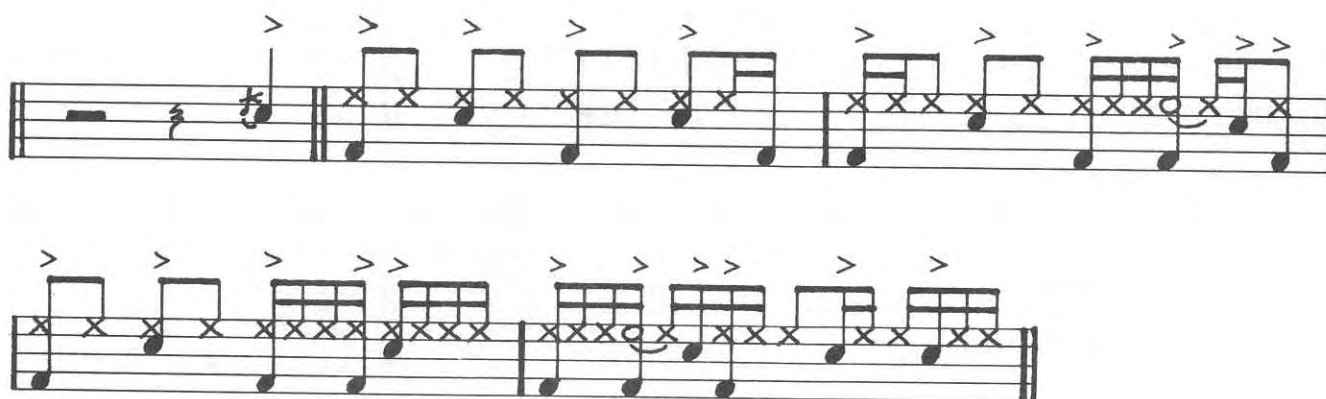
19 "Bertha Baptist" from Harvey Mason; **Earthmover** ♩ = 120



20 "The Mase" from Harvey Mason; **Earthmover** ♩ = 94

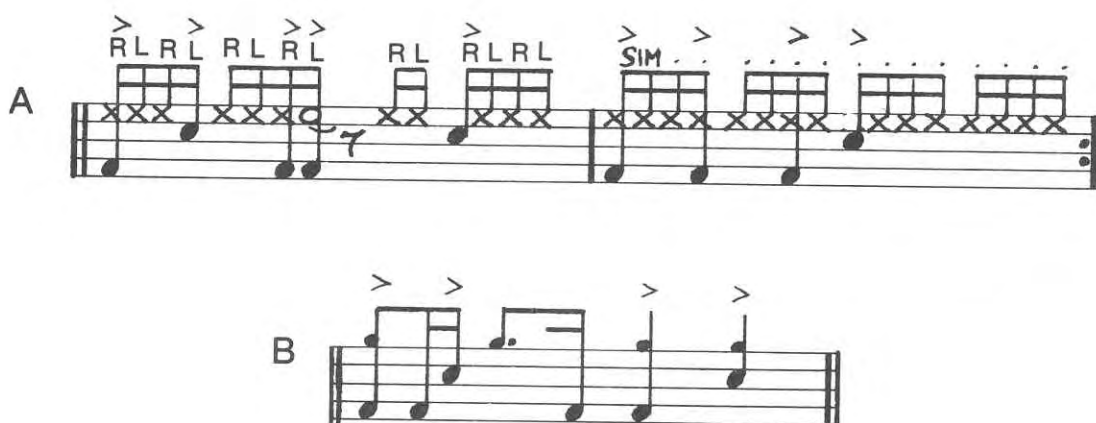


21 "Phantazia" from Harvey Mason; **Funk In A Mason Jar** ♩ = 120
(First four measures of bass solo)



PETER ERSKINE

22 "Acrobat" from John Serry; **Jazziz** ♩ = 116



23 "Do It" from Michel Colombier; **Michel Colombier** ♩ = 110



24 "Take Me Down" from Michel Colombier; **Michel Colombier** ♩ = 90

A **B** **C**

D

GERRY BROWN

25 "Funky Row" from John Lee and Gerry Brown; **Still Can't Say Enough** ♩ = 98

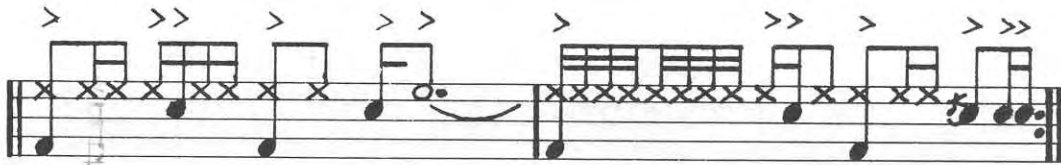
PAUL LEIM

26 "I Wanna Be With You" from Doc Severinson; **Night Journey** ♩ = 92

A **B** **C**

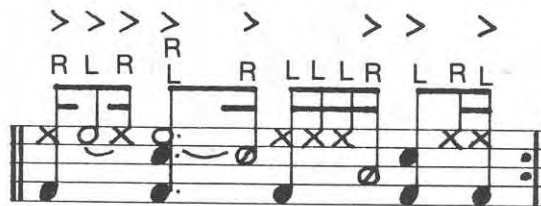
RICHARD "MOON" CALHOUN

27 "Turn" from Rufus; **Street Player** ♩ = 82



ED GREENE

28 "Shake Your Body" (Down To The Ground)" from The Jacksons; **Destiny** ♩ = 116



SOLOS

The solos that follow use the patterns that you have worked with throughout the book. Each solo has it's own special problems that should be worked out very carefully. This will help in achieving an even flow of the solo.

These solos represent different **grooves** or **feels** that are very popular in today's music. Certain solos will bring to mind certain players.

You will find that the solos makes excellent lesson material or very challenging jury and recital pieces.

SOLO #1

♩ = 120

The musical score for "SOLO #1" is composed of nine staves. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 120. The notation is written on a single melodic line with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. There are numerous 'x' marks above notes, likely indicating fingerings or specific articulation. Dynamic markings like '>' (accent) and '>>' (strong accent) are used throughout. Some notes have 't.' (trill) or 'to to' (trill) markings. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

SOLO #2

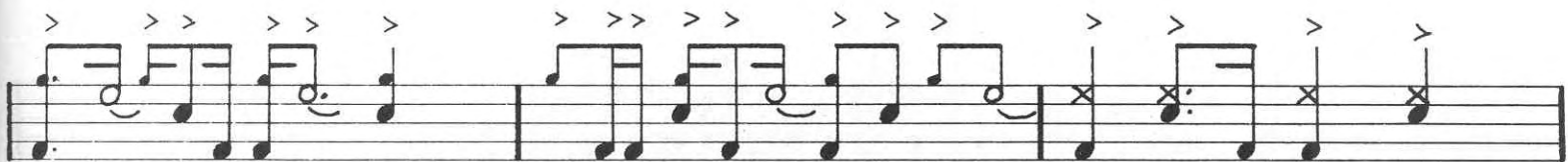
♩ = 100

The musical score consists of ten staves. The first staff begins with a half rest, followed by a series of eighth notes with rhythmic notation above them: '>', '>>', 'RLRL', 'RLRL', 'RLRL', 'RLRL', 'SIM.', '>', '>>', '>', '>', '>'. The subsequent staves continue with various rhythmic patterns, including eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and rests, all accompanied by rhythmic notation. The score includes triplets marked with a '3' and a bracket. The final two staves are empty, each marked with a double bar line and a '2' above it, indicating a two-measure rest.

SOLO #3

♩ = 126

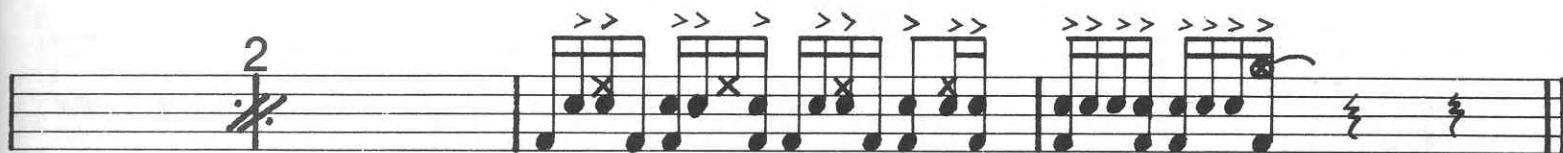
The musical score for Solo #3 consists of ten staves of music. The notation includes various rhythmic values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and dynamic markings such as accents (>) and slurs. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Some measures contain multiple notes beamed together, indicating complex rhythmic patterns. The final measure of the tenth staff is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign (//).



SOLO #4

♩ = 132

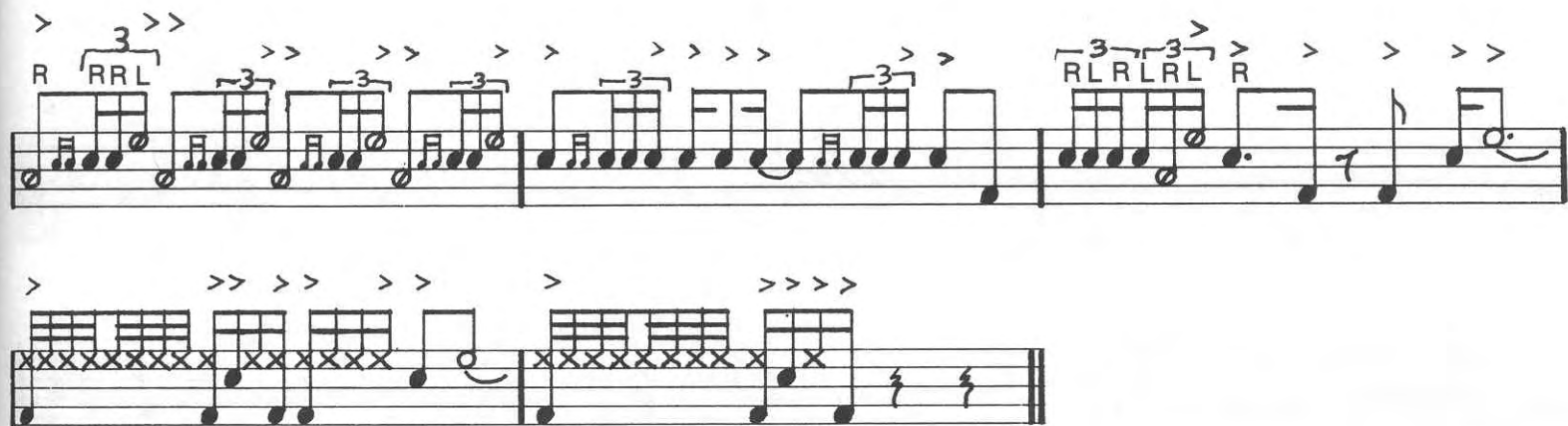
The musical score consists of ten staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as 132 BPM. The notation includes various rhythmic values: eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and rests. Above the notes, there are rhythmic patterns such as 'RLRL RLRL' and 'RLRL RLRL'. Some notes are marked with an accent (>). A 'G.P.' (Grace Note) is indicated in the fourth staff. The score ends with a double bar line and a '2' indicating a repeat or a specific measure count.



SOLO #5

♩ = 116

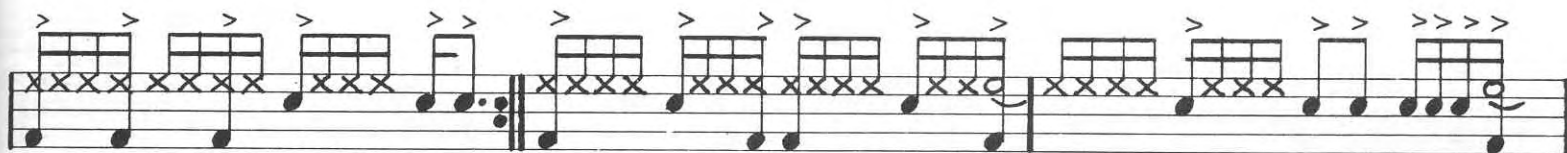
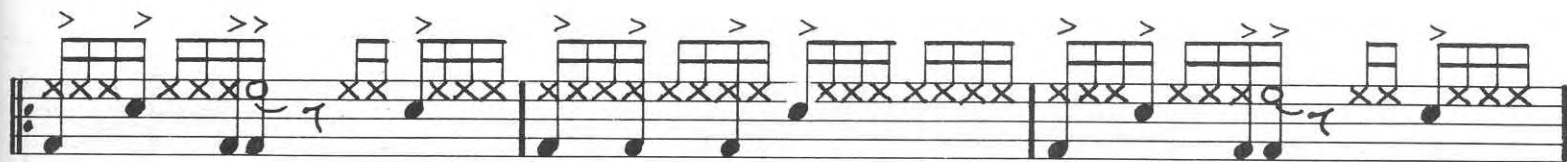
The musical score consists of 10 staves. The first staff begins with a tempo marking of 116. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings. The first staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The second staff continues the pattern with eighth notes and accents. The third staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The fourth staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The fifth staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The sixth staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The seventh staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The eighth staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The ninth staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign. The tenth staff has a pattern of eighth notes with accents, followed by a measure with a repeat sign and the number 2.



SOLO #6

♩ = 120

This page contains ten staves of musical notation for a guitar exercise. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, accidentals, and dynamic markings. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notation is written in a style that suggests a specific guitar technique, possibly a form of tapping or a specific fingering system, as indicated by the 'RLRL' and 'SIM.' markings. The music is organized into measures, with some measures containing multiple notes and others containing rests or specific rhythmic values. The notation is presented in a clear, legible format, suitable for a music book or a teaching resource.



SOLO #7

♩ = 116

The musical score for Solo #7 consists of ten staves of drum notation. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, footwork indicators (R for right foot, L for left foot), and dynamic markings. The score is organized into measures, with some measures containing multiple notes and rests. The notation is written on a single staff for each line, with the notes and rests positioned above the staff line. The footwork indicators are placed above the notes. The dynamic markings are placed below the notes. The score is organized into measures, with some measures containing multiple notes and rests. The notation is written on a single staff for each line, with the notes and rests positioned above the staff line. The footwork indicators are placed above the notes. The dynamic markings are placed below the notes. The score is organized into measures, with some measures containing multiple notes and rests. The notation is written on a single staff for each line, with the notes and rests positioned above the staff line. The footwork indicators are placed above the notes. The dynamic markings are placed below the notes.

2

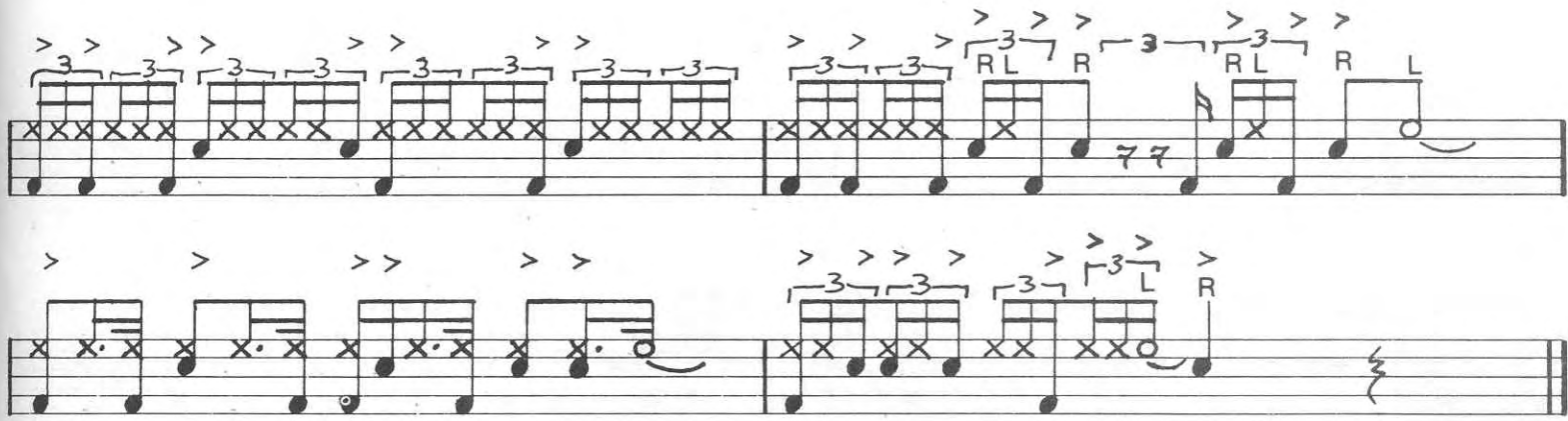
2



SOLO #8

♩ = 88-92

This page contains ten staves of musical notation for a drum solo. The notation is written on a grand staff (two staves per system) and includes various rhythmic patterns, triplets, and fingerings. The piece concludes with two measures marked with a double bar line and a '2' above the staff.



SOLO #9

♩ = 132

The musical score consists of nine staves. The first staff begins with a series of eighth notes, some marked with an accent (>). The second staff continues with similar patterns, including some sixteenth notes and rests. The third staff features a 2/4 time signature change and a series of eighth notes. The fourth staff continues with eighth notes and rests. The fifth staff includes a series of eighth notes and rests, with some notes marked with an accent (>). The sixth staff features a series of eighth notes and rests, with some notes marked with an accent (>). The seventh staff includes a series of eighth notes and rests, with some notes marked with an accent (>). The eighth staff features a series of eighth notes and rests, with some notes marked with an accent (>). The ninth staff includes a series of eighth notes and rests, with some notes marked with an accent (>).



SOLO #10

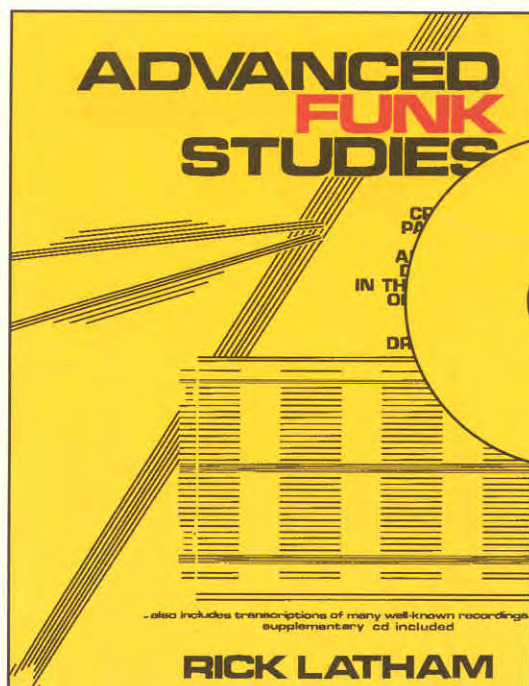
$\text{♩} = 72$ HALF X FEEL

The musical score consists of ten staves of music. The notation is primarily eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed in groups. Above the staff, there are rhythmic markings: single '>' symbols, double '>>' symbols, and specific letter sequences like 'RR LL', 'RLRR LR R', 'RLRL RR LL', and 'RL'. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines, with some measures containing repeat signs. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The overall feel is indicated as 'HALF X FEEL'.



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