

TEACHING PROGRAM

Basic
Medium
Advanced level



INFO

THE PROGRAM

Thanks to a longstanding experience and personal research, Antonio Fusco's drumming course offers a personalized learning path for all music styles- with a focus on jazz, from New Orleans style to contemporary forms. It is a complete study. The aim here is to convey the importance of originality and research of a personal voice in music commitment. The goal is also to give enough tools for an individual musical approach, up to the preparation to musical profession.

TOPICS

SUBJECTS

The program is developed into different subjects, including some personal notes and individualized method based on the student level. With a daily practice, is possible to reach the right skills and start a personal and professional path in the music business.

Drums foundations: matched and classic grip (American, German and French grip), Tap, Up, Down, Full stroke, push & pull, finger control exercises etc.

Technique & Maintenance: Control and elasticity, warm up, sticking, rudiments, other warm up.

Independence and Coordination of four limbs: harmonic and melodic concept.

The Ride Cymbal: swing, sound, bounce, flowing, breathing on the ride cymbal.

Bass drums: sounds and techniques to feather the bass drums

Sound of the Jazz drumming: listening, transcribing, learning the different forms (AABA, Rhythm Changes, Modal etc).

Phrasing: creativity and develop of a personal vocabulary.

Rhythms and essential stiles: learning the most important rhythms and (Afro Cuban, Brasil, clave, ECM, etc).

Brushes: brushing the snare drums with different grips, sounds, motions, phrasings, colours etc.

Sight-reading: reading and interpreting a big band chart, concept of short and long notes.

Improvisation: learning different approaches: melodic improvisation, thematic improvisation, free in time improvisation.

DRUMS FOUNDATIONS & TECHNIQUE

GRIPS AND RUDIMENTS

Basic exercises for the control of the American, German and French grip.

Single and double stroke roll training using the push & pull technique.
Tap, Up, Down, Full stroke, rudiments,

ESSENTIAL BOOKS

George Lawrence Stone - Stick control for the snare drums

Charles Wilcoxon - Wrist & finger stroke control for advanced Drummers

RUDIMENTS

America's NARD Drum Solos - A Collection of 150 Solos of the National Association of Rudimental Drummers.

Alan Dowson - Rudimental rituals.

George Lawrence Stone - Accent & rebounds for snare drummer

F. Henri Klickman - Buddy Rich's modern interpretation on snare drum rudiments.

Morris Goldenberg -Modern School for Snare Drum

Charles Wilcoxon -Modern Rudimental Swing Solos

Anthony J.Cirone -Portraits in rhythm study guide.

Gary Chaffee - Sticking patterns.

Joe Morello - Master studies.

Gary Chaffee - Rhythm and meter patterns.

TECHNIQUE & MAINTENANCE

CONTROL AND ELASTICITY

WARM UP

- Paradiddle warm up exercise
- Gary Chaffee – Killer stroke warm up
- Antonio Fusco – Bounce stroke warm up
- Alan Dowson – Rudimental ritual (brushes & sticks)
- Charles Wilcoxon – Wrist & Stroke Finger Control
- Steve Gadd – Drum corps/ Rudiments - Variation on Crazy Army

INDEPENDENCE & COORDINATION

HARMONIC AND MELODIC CONCEPT

NOTES

Independence Training Exercises

Eight pages of exercises thought for a gradual development of the Independence of the four limbs, starting from simple quarter note patterns until advanced sixteen note combinations.

ESSENTIAL BOOKS

- ***Gary Chester*** - The New Brad
- ***Ted Red*** - Syncopation for the modern drummers
- ***John Riley*** - Jazz master
- ***John Riley*** - The art of bop drumming
- ***John Riley*** - Beyond bop drumming
- ***Jim Chapin*** - Syncopation for the modern drummers
- ***Gary Chaffee*** - Linear Time Playing
- ***Gary Chaffee*** - Time Function Patterns

COORDINATION

- ***Marvin Dahlgren and Elliot Fine*** - Four way coordination 四
- ***Gary Chafee*** -Time function pattern & Linear Time Function 时
- ***Antonio Fusco*** - The Coordination " Advanced method for a complete coordination on the drum set

THE RIDE CYMBAL

GRIP & SOUND

NOTES

- ***Grip & Sounds***– Five ways to play the ride cymbal to control and reach different sounds.
- ***Sound*** – Control, flowing and discovering the different sounds on the ride cymbal
- ***Patterns*** – Swing, Up Tempo, even eight, Hemiola, odd meters swing etc.

BOOKS

- ***J. Riley The Art OF Bop Drumming***
- ***J. Riley Beyond of Bop Drumming***

THE BASS DRUMS

FEATHERING THE BASS DRUMS

ESSENTIAL BOOKS APPLIED FOR BASS DRUMS

- ***Stick Control***
- ***Syncopation***
- ***Jim Chapin***

THE SOUND OF THE JAZZ DRUMS

LISTENING, TRANSCRIBING, FORMS, PLAY ALONG

NOTES AND MONOGRAPHIES

- ***Kenny Clarke's Monography***: life, transcription, style analysis of one of the most important innovators of the jazz history.
- ***Contemporary Brush Style***: Personalized brush studies: technique, styles, solos. An intensive course starting from the traditional Jazz style until Avant-garde.
- ***Paul Motian Monography***: Life, music and style of Paul Motian, including transcriptions and explanations from Bill Evans' Trio "Waltz for Debby".
- ***Tony Williams***: Life, music and style of Tony Williams, including transcriptions and explanations from the album "Tony Williams Tokyo Live".
- ***A. Fusco "The Drums-History and protagonists of the 1900"***: A collection of biographies, transcriptions and style analysis of the most important drummers.

FROM OTHER AUTHORS

- ***Roy Haines*** –by Riccardo Galli

DRUM SOLOS

- **Elvin Jones** – Pretty Brown
- **Max Roach** –Joy Spring, S.Thomas, For Big Sid
- **Tony Williams** –Geo Rose Tokyo Live
- **Kenny Clarke** –Oblique, Stompin at The Savoy, The Squirrel, With Apologize to Oscar
- **Billy Higgins** – A Happy Frame of Mind
- **Gene Krupa** –Paradise
- **Philly Joe Jones** – Birk's Works, Hot Sausage, Two Bass Hit

FORMS & BOOKS

- **A-A-B-A**
- **BLUES**
- **Rhythm Changes**
- **Modal**

PLAY ALONG BASED ON DUO ALBUMS

- Pat Metheny & Charlie Haden – Beyond The Missouri Sky
- Brad Mehldau & Charlie Haden – Long Ago And Far Away
- Keith Jarrett & Charlie Haden – Last Dance other
- Carla Bley & Steve Swallow – Duets
- Other

PHRASING

DEVELOPING A PERSONAL MUSIC PHRASING

- Exercising to write own pattern ideas
- The triplet phrasing
- Play melodies on the drums
- Personalizing the music phrasing, learning from the great masters

RHYTHMS AND ESSENTIAL STYLES

AFRICAN RHYTHMS, NEW ORLEANS STYLE, AFROCUBAN STYLE, BRASILIAN STYLE, FUNK,

NOTES

- ***African & Afro-American Drummers – PDF***

- **A. Fusco Senegal Rhythm transcriptions**

BOOKS

- **Moktar Samba** – African rhythms and independence for drumset
- **Steve Houghton and Tom Harrington** - Essential Styles VOL. 1/
VOL .2
- **Royal Hartigan** –West African rhythms for drumset
- **Dave Garibaldi** – Funky beat & Future Sound
- **Maria Martinez** – Afro-cuban coordination
- **Maria Martinez** – Brazilian coordination for drumset
- **Frank Malabe** –Afro-cuban rhythm for drumset

SIGHT READING

BIG BAND CHARTS, MINUS ONE

ESSENTIAL BOOKS

- **Dante Agostini** – Syncopation N° 1 bis
- **Walter Grassman** - Vienna Big Band (Minus One)
- **Steve Houghton** – The Drum set Soloist
- **Steve Houghton** - Studio & Big Band Drumming
- **The Big Band Drummers** - A Complete Workbook for Improving Big Band Drumming Performance

BRUSHES

The art of brushing the snare drums

BOOKS

- **Philly Joe Jones:** Brush Artistry
- **Ed Tighpen:** The sound of brushes
- **Contemporary Brush Style:** Personalized studies on the brush technique including grooves, solos, motions, grips and more.

IMPROVISATION

The art of being free and creative (for very advanced level)

- Improvisation based on a specific rhythmic pattern.
- Free and radical improvisation based on a specific rhythmic layout or melody.
- Thematic improvisation
- Free in time improvisation



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