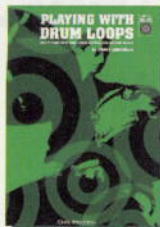


MULTI-MEDIA

PLAYING WITH DRUM LOOPS

BY DONNY GRUENDLER

BOOK/CD LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED \$29.95



Most of today's pop music is layered with loops, samples, and backing tracks that make it difficult for a drummer to understand and create what sounds and feels correct with the rest of the music. LA-based PIT instructor Donny Gruendler shares his wealth of knowledge on this subject in this 95-page book filled with 137 rock, pop, and hip-hop play-along loop charts. Gruendler suggests the best options for acoustic drumset accompaniment and explains why. The programmed loops on the two discs are cleanly recorded and well coordinated with the charts, though the structure of several of those charts can be confusing to follow. The grooves may seem simple, but the feel and attitude take work to achieve. This ain't like playing to the old metronome! A worthwhile investment if you're looking to get into today's pop music scene. (Carl Fischer)

Mike Haid

GROOVE ESSENTIALS: THE PLAY-ALONG

BY TOMMY IGOE

BOOK/CD/MP3 LEVEL: ALL \$24.95



This 126-page play-along book/CD completes a perfect drumset instructional trifecta when combined with Igoe's *Groove Essentials* DVD from 2004 (sold separately). This is the most professional, comprehensive, well-written, user-friendly, and common-sense instructional for real world applications that I've seen. Igoe is an entertaining, effective, dynamic instructor, and here he stresses the importance of learning basic grooves from the musical styles (rock, jazz, funk, world) that working drummers most often encounter. Eighty-eight easy-to-follow charts with helpful commentary fill the book, while the six-hour play-along CD contains MP3 music files of all the charts, recorded by real musicians in real time, minus drums. A world-class package. (Hudson Music)

Mike Haid

TAKING THE REINS

Inspired by his former maestro, Duke Ellington, on *The Sacred Music Of LOUIE BELLSON*, the elder statesman stretches his composition chops in large-scale sacred works employing jazz and string orchestra with choir, as well as superb ensemble and solo drumming from the master himself. But don't equate "sacred" with "somber." It's an upbeat celebration. Swinging hard in his eighties, Bellson remains an exciting, ageless force. Praise the drums and drum for praise! (Percussion Power) **Jeff Potter**

Percussion royalty and MVP session cat **SAMMY FIGUEROA** leads a fiery sextet on his sizzling debut, *...And Sammy Walked In*. Culling Miami's finest talents, Figueroa's killing conga/percussion work puts the grease on effortlessly popping modern Latin jazz grooves. Also take note of the first-rate performance by up-and-comer kit man **GÖTZ KUJACK**. Big fun! (Savant) **Jeff Potter**



KARSH KALE BROKEN ENGLISH, www.sixdegreesrecords.com

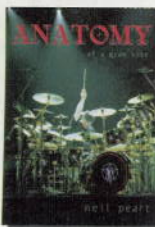
CARL TASSI WAITING FOR THE BREAD, www.carltassi.com

CLAUDIO SCOLARI THE MY FOURTEEN SONGS, www.claudioscolari.com

MIMMO CAMPANALE ...OF COURSE, www.mimmocampanale.com

NEIL PEART ANATOMY OF A DRUM SOLO

DVD LEVEL: ALL \$49.95



If any drummer in the history of rock music has earned the right to release a DVD on the anatomy of a drum solo, Rush drum god Neil Peart certainly qualifies. On this highly anticipated DVD, Peart meticulously dissects his musically thematic, methodically structured nine-minute "Der Trommler" solo from the Rush 30th Anniversary tour. The drummer articulately explains and performs each section of the piece as a historical rhythmic evolution starting with the human heartbeat and evolving from African to European to jazz to rock influences, utilizing extensive electronics and his extravagant 30th-anniversary DW acoustic kit. High points: exquisite packaging and production, previously unreleased footage, Peart's lengthy in-studio "Explorations," various camera options, alternate edits, bonus footage, and a PDF file transcription of the entire "Der Trommler" solo. This package is a tour de force. (Hudson Music) **Mike Haid**

JUDAS PRIEST RISING IN THE EAST

DVD LEVEL: ALL \$19.98



Judas Priest 2005 is no nostalgia act; it's a veritable Olympus of metal gods at the peak of their powers. In fact, *Rising*, recorded at Tokyo's Budokan, could be an instructional video for aspiring purveyors of heaviness. Everything from **Rob Halford's** soaring screams to the guitarists' shredder heroics to **Ian Hill's** battle-ax bass wielding shows metal done right. **Scott Travis**, too, is in prime form, blazing huge hand-foot fills across a double bass kit that wouldn't fit in most living rooms. He even squeezes in some stellar stick tossing. Best of all, his sound is enormous and crystal clear, and the cameras capture him at all the right moments. You'll find yourself sympathizing with the fan who cries ecstatically when Halford introduces "Breaking The Law." (Rhino) **Michael Parillo**

