

50 Essential Drum Albums! 145 Killer Microphones!

DRUM!

GINGER FISH

Manson's Makeover

MICKY HART

**Survives
the Dead**

**Louie
Bellson
Q&A**

**Bozzio Ostinato
Workout**

**Neo Swing
Summit**

KoRn

Nov
VO
NOV
International Drum Month!
\$3.95 CAN \$4.95
DECEMBER ISSUE



BUTCH NORTON

STICKS & SKINS

Butch Norton sees a therapist regularly and is a member of the Eels.



ACTING OUT

When I was a student at Cal Arts, I had the privilege of studying North Indian tabla with a great man, Tarnath Rao. During this period of my drumming life, I stopped playing drum set while I searched for new avenues for my artistic expression.

I dabbled in Javanese, Balinese, African, Latin, "new" music, Chinese, Japanese, orchestral — all sorts of new ideas from ancient and forward-thinking people — but I gravitated toward the tabla. The minuscule hand technique that I have today comes from this tradition, born in India, taught by Tarnath, and my mentor, John Bergamo.

Thanks, John!

Now the tie-in to drum set comes from a poster that Tarnath had hanging in his studio. I would look at it every day, and eventually I wrote down this simple yet powerful observation on music (or all arts, for that matter): the Nava Rasa.

I started to take time during the end of my practice session to just sit at the kit and pick out a sentiment, like Veera: Heroic. I would turn on my tape recorder and start a timer for four minutes, then I'd freely improvise on this thought. Time, structure,

Nava Rasa

There are nine types of Rasa (sentiments or flavors), one or the other of which is assumed by every musical creation.

Shringāra: Erotic

Hāsya: Comic

Karunā: Pathetic (sad)

Ravdra: Furious (anger)

Veera: Heroic

Bhayānaka: Terrible, Frightful

Vibhatsa: Disgust

Adbhuta: Marvelous,

Wonderment

Shānti: Tranquil

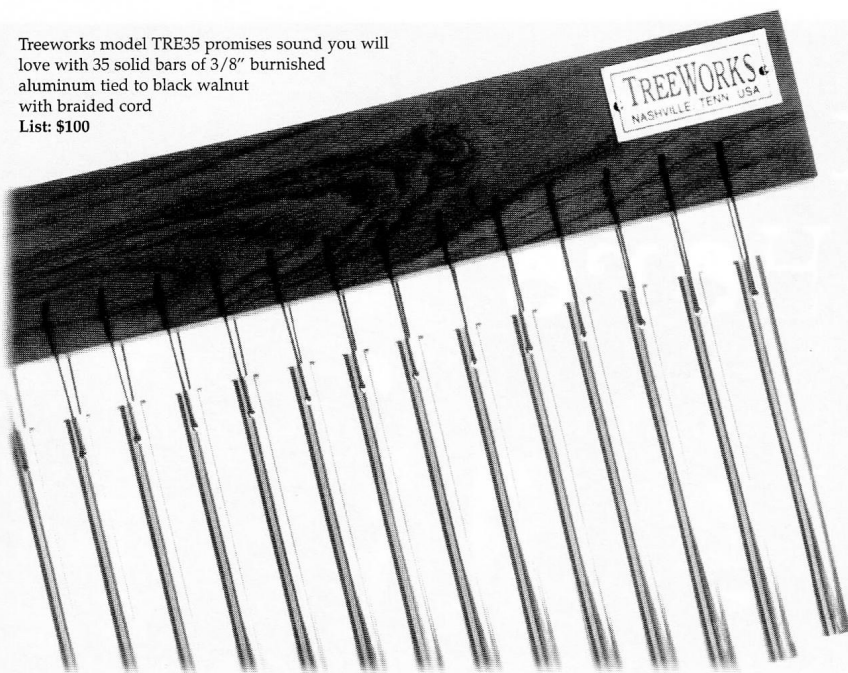
meter, dynamics — none had a bearing on where I could go. I could use my voice with the drums, or hands, or even strike the floor tom with my head — anything to sonically recreate the sentiment or feeling of Veera: Heroic. Then the timer would go off. I stopped the recorder, listened, and critiqued.

After many years of practicing this exercise, I've built up quite a vocabulary. Try this the next time you sit at your kit:

1. Pick a Rasa.
2. Record a three- or four-minute performance.
3. Concentrate on the feeling or emotion that the Rasa gives you, and transfer it through to your instrument.
4. Have available and use different sticks, mallets and beaters.
5. Incorporate your voice, sounds, pops, moans, hums, groans, sighs, screams, laughter, etc.
6. Really let go.
7. Listen and critique. See if you really captured the Rasa.
8. Try it with other musicians and artists. It's very rewarding and exhilarating.

Remember: This is truly you. No one will sound like you. There's no right or wrong here. Have fun. Play.

Treeworks model TRE35 promises sound you will love with 35 solid bars of 3/8" burnished aluminum tied to black walnut with braided cord
List: \$100



NEW SOUND FROM TREETWORKS™ HAND CRAFTED CHIMES

SOLID aluminum bars create the Treeworks sound. Burnished to brighten resonance. Each bar is individually hand tied with braided synthetic cord for strength. The wood is Tennessee black walnut meticulously sanded and oil finished. To hear Treeworks chimes, call or write for your nearest dealer.

TREETWORKS™

Treeworks Dept. D9 • P.O. box 140682 Nashville, TN 37214
(615)872-8432