

ENTER TO WIN REMO SNARES + CONGAS!

DRUM

**ALEX
VAN HALEN**
RETURN OF THE
MASTERBLASTER

CHUMBAWAMBA

Babatunde
OLATUNJI

**G. LOVE &
SPECIAL SAUCE**

RAY BARRETTO

SECRETS TO KILLER
STUDIO EFFECTS

REVIEWS!

**SPAUN BELL BRASS SNARE DRUMS
BEYERDYNAMIC TG-X 10 MICROPHONE**

VOL. 7, #2 \$3.95 CAN \$4.95
MARCH | APRIL ISSUE



BUTCH NORTON

STICKS & SKIN



Butch Norton is constantly banging, smashing, or throwing percussion things at dancers, actors, mimes, poets, and politicians, with no remorse. He is a member of the Board Of Banana Awareness, the percussion duo Damaru, and the Eels.

TAP & SHAKE

In the last installment we did some tapping. I hope your family and friends were annoyed as much as mine always are.

Remember, if you have a floor below you, and something to sit on, you can practice. Tapping can be a useful tool. Visualize the kit and work out the parts on your

thighs and the floor. Now we will move the last tapping exercise (see Ex. 1) onto the kit. The shaker part takes over the hi-hat function, with the rest of the limbs doing their normal jobs.

I started experimenting with the shaker while accompanying modern dance classes at CalArts. I would attach some sleigh bells to my left foot, stomp on a baking pan with my right foot while playing a djembe with my left hand, and shake something in my right hand — always trying different combinations.

During this time I was also playing kit in a lounge trio five to six nights a week, covering every style imaginable. The leader and club owners were constantly on the volume control patrol. (I was using Vic Firth echo sticks and brushes galore!)

We were learning a tune by Sade called

“The Sweetest Taboo.” There was no hi-hat, just shakers, cross stick, snare, and bass drum — a perfect opportunity to apply my shaker experiments to the kit. From there I started doing most of our sambas and bossas with this same orchestration. It’s sonically and visually appealing. Ex. 2 is the groove from Sade’s “The Sweetest Taboo.” Practice it slowly at first.

I also recommend using this shaker technique to practice along with a classic album by Stan Getz and Joao Gilberto called *Getz/Gilberto Featuring Jobim*.

1

2

Drum Key

Shaker

Cross—Stick
on°Snare

Snare

Bass

Hi—Hat
w°foot