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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE



Discipline

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.

NOVOCAINE FOR THE HANDS

Hello. My name is Butch. I'm a drummer. I see the drum kit as more than just drums and cymbals. I see it as the center of rhythm, sound, color, and atmosphere, encompassing all instruments and cultures. Like a vaudevilian "trap" set player, I incorporate any and all imaginable sounds into my arsenal.

That is the perspective that this column is coming from.

The following examples come from the song "Novocaine For The Soul" from the Eels' debut album *Beautiful Freak*. The following examples demonstrate the part that I play in concert, using a combination tabla/djembe/shuffle-kit groove.

Ex. 1 shows you the basic shuffle pulse that is the foundation. It's played in a tabla hand-drum fashion with the right hand striking the snare drumhead. The hand rocks back and forth between the middle, ring, and pinkie fingers (notated as 3) and the index finger (1).

You'll find the djembe pattern in *Ex. 2*. The djembe is to the left of my hi-hat, and I play it with my left hand. The open tone is

Drum Key

Left Hand Open Tone on Djembe Left Hand Bass Tone on Djembe Right Hand on Snare Bass Drum Hi-Hat w/ foot

played with the palm striking the rim or edge of the djembe with the bridge of your hand (the meaty part between your fingers and palm). Let the four fingers (pinkie, ring, middle, and index) hit the drum without muffling it, so that you get an open tone. The bass tone is achieved by the full hand striking the center of the drum. Practice going between these two positions for a while until you've found these two distinct tones. Once you've got them nailed, add the bass drum part in *Ex. 3*, then the hi-hat in *Ex. 4*.

Good luck, and keep creating.

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single strokes



It's all smiles, and hugs, and peace and love among the second-stage drummers backstage at the '97 Lollapalooza wing-dinga-mathon. But behind the scenes, the political maneuvering grew to ancient Roman proportions. See page 28 for a detailed account from our cub reporter Butch Norton (second from right) of Eels.

drumheads, and electronic percussion to the winners. ■ **Damaso Cerruti** — the Argentinean drummer who has lived in Brazil for years — went to Japan to play some shows and conduct clinics on bossa nova. ■ **C. Ibañez**, the major South American drum stick manufacturer, introduced a new model of sticks called Tornado, which are available in nylon and wood tips. Some of the greatest drummers in Brazil use C. Ibañez sticks. ■ After a long hiatus, samba great **Wilson das Neves** finally released a new CD called *Performance*, which features his drumming and singing. ■ GR Importation is the new Brazilian distributor of **Istanbul** cymbals.

Netherlands

This year's Slagwerkkraant Festival was presented during the first weekend of September. The show had a strong lineup,

with **Mike Mangini**, **Rod Morgenstein**, **Cindy Blackman**, and **Simon Phillips**, as well as some Dutch drummers and a big samba ensemble. It was announced that the festival will once again be staged in Rotterdam next year.

Great Britain

Will Calhoun was in town with his new band AZA, along with partner in crime Doug "Bass Ninja" Wimbish and newly inducted Hall Of Famer Bernie Worrell on keyboards. Calhoun played killer drums, hip-hop wave drum, and some savage funk on an udu drum. He's grown into one of the top talents around. ■ Celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of India's and Pakistan's independence inspired one of the true surprises of the year. **Johnny Kalsi's** Dhol Foundation made an appearance, featuring some 20 strong drummers grooving on their



DRUMMER'S REVENGE

Q: What is the definition of a quarter tone?

A: Two oboes playing in unison.

dhol drums with some deep beats that fused trip-hop and funk with traditional Indian and Pakistani grooves. ■ Look for a new publication from Balafon Books titled *The Drum Book*. Written by **Geoff Nicholls**, it is a history of the development of the rock drum set, and features some great shots of **Charlie Watts'** drums, **Ringo's** early Premier sets, and enough facts and photos to keep us drum-philis happy for a month of Sundays.

Germany

Simon Phillips received a Jazz Award for selling more than 10,000 records in Germany. ■ Tribe After Tribe had a couple of very successful gigs in Germany, featuring drummer **Mike Hanson** and his unusual drum-and-percussion kit. ■ **Mike Mangini** will be the special guest for the first Zildjian Day in Berlin. He will be on tour in Germany later this year with Steve Vai. ■ M&T, Pearl's distributor in Germany, staged its second **Drummer's Summer Camp**, which drew nearly 100 drummers. ■ Dutch drummer **René Creemers** performed an extensive clinic tour through the Netherlands and Germany in September and October, and also has released his first solo album, called *Paradox*. ■ This month the big **Drum Masters** show will be staged in Cologne, sponsored by the drum department of Music Store Cologne. It has a very interesting schedule featuring drummers like **Dave Weckl**, **Billy Cobham**, **Akira Jimbo**, **Gerry Brown**, **Sonny Emory**, and **Tommy Aldridge** — as well as a couple of German drummers — all playing Yamaha kits. ■ Also on Yamaha drums, **Ndugu Chancler** passed through Germany for a one-week clinic tour in early October.

single strokes

By Waldo the Squid

NEW BLOOD

DAVE GOODE

Age: 35 **Equipment:** Orange County Drums & Percussion drums, Sabian cymbals, Aquarian heads and sticks, DW pedals, and Shure microphones. **Contact:** 714-498-4945.

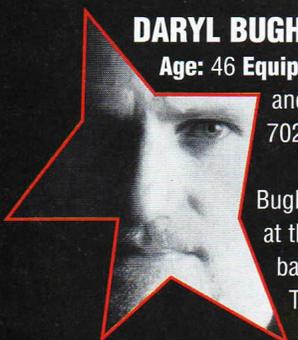


Let's say right up front that Goode is an accomplished drummer who has plenty to crow about. He grooves hard in a variety of styles and time signatures, exercises restraint when it's called for, and unleashes positively resplendent chops. But judging by *Surrender Now*, the CD by his Southern California prog-rock trio OnOffOn, it's hard to tell where these chaps come

from. All three band members play with a fusion slickness, which works just fine until the vocals come in. What follows is inexplicable. The melodies drone through embarrassing lyrics like, "Baby done show me, I's co-dependent" or worse, "If a thief were I — of your pain." Oh gosh. It's just wrong. The two instrumental tracks on *Surrender Now* — "Weekend in Montreal" and "The Gift Must Always Move" — are so much more convincing than the other nine songs that the Squid can only advise these fellows to drop the lyrical pretensions and play some straight jazz gigs.

DARYL BUGHMAN

Age: 46 **Equipment:** DW Drums, Zildjian cymbals, Vic Firth 5B sticks, DW and Remo heads, and DW pedals and hardware. **Contact:** 702-646-4863.



Bughman's life story is an inspiration. He began playing drums at the age of 13 and worked his way through a succession of bands, including a stint with the late rock guitar monster Tommy Bolin. He toured the country playing top venues like the Fillmore, the Bitter End, and the Whiskey A Go-Go, and saw his share of the rock and roll lifestyle. Then at the

age of 24 he sold his drums to pursue a career in artist management and concert production, and didn't touch a drum stick for 21 years until, at the age of 45, he decided to give the tubs a second whack. Considering the solid rock drumming on Bughman's four-song demo, he made a wise move. Bughman plays hard and heavy, with plenty of double-bass thumping, and knows how to lay into fat backbeats like a true Neanderthal bash master. Okay, he's not the greatest drummer who has ever flammed, but he's an honest survivor, and for that, the Squid salutes him. Huzzah!

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legend, and includes extensive listings of his recordings and film soundtrack work. ■ The second annual **KoSA Percussion Workshop** was held last August at Johnson State College in Vermont. Performers and workshop faculty included KoSA artistic director **Aldo Massa**, as well as **Ignacio Berroa**, **Dave Garibaldi**, **Dom Famularo**, **Michael Spiro**, **Glen Velez**, **Alessandra Belloni**, **Gordon Gottlieb**, **Répercussion**, **Jeff Salisbury**, and African dancer **Delphine Pan Déoué**. ■ **Donn Bennet Drum Studio** has launched its Web site at www.bennettdrums.com. **Gibraltar** has completely revamped its site at www.KamanMusic.com. **Kart-A-Bag** also has a new site at <http://www.kart-a-bag.com>. ■ **Butch Norton's** t-shirt said something really quite naughty about the members of Korn after he and the other fellows from the Eels got into a little tiff with the power metal thrashers during the '97 Lollapalooza tour. It seems that halfway through the tour, the Eels got the chance to play on the Lollapalooza main stage when rapper Tricky decided to take a break. Of course, the Eels lads couldn't have been more thrilled. "That morning we went to the main stage, and had our crew set up," Norton explains, "and then two hours before our performance we heard that Korn refused to play that day and threatened to leave the tour if we played in Tricky's spot. They knew we were already set up and could have at least let it go for one show, but they got their way and our crew had to break everything down and move it back to the second stage for that show." So much for peace and love. ■ Sabian has just hired **David Kelley** as a Product Specialist in the company's Massachusetts office. And in June, **Slingerland** announced the appointment of a new President, **Mike Hassell**, who is a former drummer with experience as a marketing executive at Procter & Gamble and CEO of Knowledge Products. ■ Hollywood Records has released *Flyin' Traps*, a 15-track compilation featuring 17 top drummers, including **Stephen Perkins**, **Matt**

P.O.V. WHICH BAND WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO PLAY DRUMS WITH?

NATE PRENDEZ

Age: 25 **Playing Level:** Intermediate
Band: Apostolic Faith Temple Band

I'm into gospel music, and would like to play with the Hawkins Singers. I've been following their drummer, Joel Smith, for a long time.

