

Rudimental Symposium Online

Dawsonisms

Flam Rudiments

by Osami Mizuno

Alan Dawson was a master drum teacher. Some of his students included Tony Williams, Keith Copeland, Steve Smith, Harvey Mason, Vinnie Colaiuta, John Robinson, and Kenny Aronoff.

Alan's teaching methods were unique and strongly rooted in

rudiments. Let's take a look at some of the uses Alan made of flam rudiments.

First, practice the flamadiddle, double flamadiddle, and triple flamadiddle shown below.

Flamadiddle



Double Flamadiddle



Triple Flamadiddle



Here are two exercises that utilize all three flamadiddles.



OR L R R @ L R L L OR L R R @ L R L L OR L R R @ L R L L
FP. FP. FP. FP. FP. FP.

OR L OR L R R @ L R @ L R L L OR L OR L R R @ L R @ L R L L
FDP. FDP. FDP. FDP.

OR L OR L OR L R R @ L R @ L R @ L R L L OR L OR L OR L R R
FTP. FTP. FTP.

Alan also made ingenious use of flams within the context of rolls. The following two exercises use seven-, eleven-, and fifteen-stroke rolls with flams interspersed.

@ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L
1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a
F.7STR. F.7STR. F.7STR. F.7STR.

@ R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L
1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a
F.11STR. F.11STR. F.11STR.

R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L
1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a
F.11STR. F.15STR.

@ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L
F.7STR. F.7STR. F.7STR. F.7STR. F.7STR. F.7STR.

@ R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L
F.11STR. F.11STR. F.11STR. F.11STR.

@ R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L @ R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L
F.15STR. F.15STR. F.15STR.

See the May 2001 Modern Drummer for the complete lesson.

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