

MULTI-MEDIA

BLUES DRUMS METHOD, BLUES DRUMS PLAY ALONG TRAX

BY KEVIN COGGINS & DAVID BARRETT

BOOK/CD LEVEL: ALL \$14.95 (each)



Produced by the San Francisco Bay Area's School Of The Blues, these two books not only provide a practical and eye-opening look at blues drumming, but offer an excellent set of exercises, grooves, and concepts for drummers, regardless of what genre they play in. The authors shift accents around in an 8th-note pattern; they also advocate shifting patterns around inside of the measure, making them fall at odd points and against the beat—great independence training for mind and limb that will allow a drummer to really "play." Not only do these books handle the genre-specific, de-mystifying stuff like "the backward shuffle with brushes" and "bass drum patterns for blues rumba and calypso," they also explore the rhythmic evolution of blues drumming into early rock, surf beats, and New Orleans grooves. (Mel Bay)

Robin Tolleson

100 FAMOUS FUNK BEATS BY JIM PAYNE

BOOK/CD LEVEL: ALL \$17.95



THE GREAT DRUMMERS OF R&B, FUNK & SOUL BY JIM PAYNE

BOOK LEVEL: ALL \$19.95



Most of the written material in these two books appeared in Payne's now-out-of-print 1996 work, *Give The Drummers Some*. With a CD added, plus additional notes and historical data, *100 Famous Funk Beats* puts a spotlight on James Brown drummers Clyde Stubblefield on "Since You Been Gone," Jabo on "Hot Pants Road," and Jimmy Madison on "My Thang." Elsewhere Payne celebrates the genius of Andy Newmark's hi-hat on Sly Stone's "Fresh" and the sustained crash cymbal on Parliament's "Up For The Down Stroke." He also analyzes the outrageous, ground-shaking work by Mike Clark on Herbie Hancock's "Actual Proof" from 1974, and shows how that groove evolved into 1991's amazing "Slinky." This book is a joy.

The Great Drummers Of R&B, Funk, & Soul gives proper due to legends like Earl Palmer, Al Jackson, and the many drummers of James Brown, as well as unsung heroes like Quinton Joseph, James "Diamond" Williams, and Ray Torres. It's musical history with an inside view—raw, uncut, and highly entertaining. (Mel Bay) **Robin Tolleson**

BOTCH 061502

DVD LEVEL: ALL \$18.98



To figure out how 2007's post-hardcore, screamo, and math-rock acts developed their sound, you've got to turn back several years to some of the decade's earlier trailblazers, like At The Drive-In, Dillinger Escape Plan, and Botch. *061502* is the DVD release of Botch's final show, and drummer **TIM LATONA** tackles a mean kit throughout the fourteen-song set. While this 2002 Seattle performance sports superb audio, the video isn't stellar for those trying to check out Latona's fantastic, frenetic playing. Dimly lit stages coupled with shaky cameras rarely aimed at the drum riser don't lend to many clear Latona sightings, and that's too bad; playing like that deserves a far better on-screen send-off. (Hydra Head)

Waleed Rashidi

BRUFORD ROCK GOES TO COLLEGE

DVD LEVEL: ALL \$23.99



Has Bill Bruford been sitting on this footage, or battling the BBC for the rights to it since it was filmed in 1979? Either way, this DVD is long overdue and offers a rare glimpse of Bruford's über-talented, short-lived, schizophrenic rock-jazz band featuring guitarist **Allan Holdsworth**, keyboardist **Dave Stewart**, bassist **Jeff Berlin**, and sometimes vocalist **Annette Peacock**. These pieces are like living, breathing organisms ("Beelzebub" pulsates in and out of 9/8), and Bruford is the rhythmic grand pump, circulating lifeblood through signature rimshots, pitched and precise RotoTom runs, legato sizzle-ride patterns, and one-handed 16th-note beats. This is an incredible document and a must for Bru-heads. (Winterfold Records, www.billbruford.com)

Will Romano

CUT TIME MORE DRUM DVDS

ALEX ACUÑA THE RHYTHM COLLECTOR

LEVEL: ALL \$39.95



In the first ten minutes of Alex Acuña's impressive new instructional/performance DVD, *The Rhythm Collector*, the legendary percussionist sails around a soundstage, taking turns masterfully playing congas, bongos, timbales, and other hand instruments. And lest we forget how good he was on the drumset during his stint with Weather Report (that's him on 1977's *Heavy Weather*), Acuña applies many famous Latin rhythms (especially ones from his native Peru) convincingly to a stylish DW kit. Throughout, Alex narrates his inspiring life story. Features include 5.1 sound, footage of Acuña burning in a small jazz group setting, and a transcription booklet. (www.dwdrums.com) **Ilya Stenkovsky**



BILLY COBHAM JAZZ LEGENDS:

LIVE AT THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS HALL CANNES 1989

LEVEL: ALL \$19.95

This fiery live performance with some of Europe's finest players finds Billy Cobham at his best, during the jazz/rock/funk master's third and most eclectic career incarnation. Performing his most recognizable compositions, Cobham is relaxed, in control, and impressively on top of his game. Top-notch video production and excellent sound quality make this one to get. (MVD/Quantum Leap) **Mike Haid**

