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Bodhrán: An Overview

TIPPER TECHNIQUE

- Stroke Types – Down, Up, Tap
- Playing Zones
- Incorporating the “Double-Down”

TONE TECHNIQUE

- Hand Position – Open, Muted, etc.
- Pops and Clicks
- Changing Pitch

ORNAMENTATION

- Double-Ended – Triplets, Rolls, etc.
- Single-Ended
- Hybrid Ornamentation

ACCOMPANYING TUNES

- Motor Rhythms – Reels, Jigs, Slip Jigs, Hornpipes, Polkas, Slides
- Consider Instrumentation
 - e.g. Flute players must breath
- “Following” the Tune
 - Rhythm
 - Voicing
 - Ornamentation
- Development
 - Make changes each “pass”
 - e.g. Counterpoint
- Bodhrán as a Drum Set

WORKSHOP TUNES/ RECORDINGS

- *Frank’s Reel*
 - Reel – AABB
 - Justin Bridgebeck
- *Cook in the Kitchen*
 - Jig – AABBC
 - Justin Bridgebeck
- *The High Road to Kilkenny*
 - Slip Jig – AB
 - Justin Bridgebeck
- *Spellan the Fiddler*
 - Hornpipe – AABB
 - John Skelton
- *Bill Sullivan’s*
 - Polka – AABB
 - Justin Bridgebeck
- *Charming Lovely Nancy*
 - Slide – AABB
 - *Shine* (Caroline Keane)
- *Thomas Power’s*
 - March – AABB
 - John Skelton
- *Thig Am Bata*
 - Song – Mixed-Meter
 - *Uam* (Julie Fowlis)
- *Ocean Child*
 - Reel – Drum Set Feel
 - *Ancora* (Flook)

RECOMMENDED PLAYERS/ ALBUMS

- Dave Boyd
- Adam Brown
 - *Awakening* (Ímar)
- Cormac Byrne
 - *Stone Soup* (Adam Summerhayes)
- Anna Colliton
- Aimee Ferrell Courtney
- Niamh Fennell
- Kyle Forsthoff
- Jim Higgins
 - *Riverdance*
- John Joe Kelly
 - *Ancora* (Flook)
- Andy Kruspe
 - *Liminal* (Liminal Duo)
- Kieran Leonard
 - *How to Train Your Dragon*
- Paul McClure
- Eamon Murray
 - *Before We Change Our Mind* (Beoga)
- Siobhán O'Donnell
- Martin O'Neill
 - *In Session* (Various)
- Colm Phelan
 - *Rosc* (Goitse)
 - *Full Circle* (Colm Phelan)
- Amy Richter
- Rolf Wagels
 - *Bodhrán Insight* (Various)
- Robbie Walsh
 - *Allta* (Four Winds)
- Cara Wildman

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Instructional Material

- *The Bodhrán Primer* (Andy Kruspe)
- Paul McClure Bodhrán (Patreon)
- How to Bodhrán (Patreon)
- Bodhrán Soup (Eamon Murray)
- Learn the Bodhrán (Siobhán O'Donnell)
- *Bodhrán Method* (Hal Leonard/ Amy Richter)

Bodhrán Makers

- Hedwitschak Drums
 - Christian Hedwitschak (Germany)
- Metloef Irish Drums
 - Rob Forkner (Gresham, OR)

Tipper Makers

- Falconwood
 - Gordon Falconer (Netherlands)
- Joseph Mannion (Ireland)
- Stevie Moises (Germany)

Bodhrán Summer School

- Craiceann (Inis Oírr, Galway, Ireland)

Local Events

- Kentucky Bodhrán Club (Lexington, KY)
- Berea Celtic Festival (Berea, KY)
- Tune Junkie Weekend (Oak Ridge, TN)



Rudimental Exercise Adaptations

PASIC50 - *Developing Your Bodhrán Toolkit*

Jeremy Wade

Basic Stroke Mechanics

Eights

The Rose Tree

D U (U) (D) D U (U) (D) D U (U) (D) D U T D U T D U T D U T D U T D U T D U T D U T D U T D U T

Hugga Digga Burr

5

D U D U D U D U D U D U D U D U D U D U

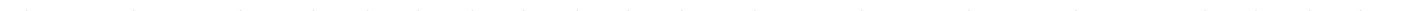
Natural Sticking

9

D U D D U D D U D D U D D U D D U D U D U D U D U D U U U U D U D U D U D U D U

16th-Note Grid

13

13 
D u d u D u d u D u d u D u d u d U d u d U d u d U d u d U d u d u d u D u d u D u d u D u d u D u d u d u d U d u d U d u d U d u d U d u d U

Double Beat

Single-Ended Ornamentation Check Pattern

Single-Ended Ornamentation

17

17

T D T D T D T D T T T D U T D U T D U T D U D U D U D U D U D U D U D U D U D U D U

Bodhrán Motor Rhythms

Notation Key

D = Down Stroke | U = Up Stroke | T = Tap Stroke

Open Pop Mute Approximate Pitch

Reel

Check 1st bar of each line.

3

D D u D u D u D u D u D u

Jig

6

D u t D u t D u t D u t D u T D u T D u T D u T

Slip Jig

11

D t D u t D u t D t D u t D u t

Hornpipe

$\text{musical notation} = \text{musical notation}^3$

14

D D u D D u D D u D D u

Polka

17

D u D u D u D u d U d U d U d U D u t D u t D u

Slide

24

D d U d u d u d U d u D d U d u d u d U d u



Kentucky Bodhrán Club

Time: Sundays, 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Location: Kentucky McTeggart Irish Dance Studio
570 Delzan Place
Lexington, KY 40503
Fee: \$40/ month
\$15/ session
FREE for private students!

There will be a limited selection of drums/ sticks available at the studio for participants. For information on how to purchase a drum/ stick/ etc. scan the QR code!



If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Wade:
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