

**MU 2990.01**  
**Special Topics in Music**  
**Techniques of Marching Percussion**  
**Syllabus and Course Packet**

**Dr. Jason Baker**  
**Assistant Professor of Music**  
**Mississippi State University**

**Spring 2010**

**Time and Location**

Wednesdays 6-7 pm, Maroon Rehearsal Hall, Band/Choir Building

**Grading**

Based on attendance and participation. Students registered for the class will be allowed one unexcused absence for the semester. Subsequent absences will lower the student's final grade by one letter per occurrence. Any reason for an absence must be given to Dr. Baker (325-0390 / [jbaker@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:jbaker@colled.msstate.edu)) within 24 hours of the absence in order for it to be considered as excused.

**Materials**

Students must download and print out the course packet and bring sticks/mallets, practice drum pad, earplugs, binder/sheet protectors and pencil.

**Schedule**

- Week 1: Oktibbeha County Singles, Singles and Doubles, Accent-Tap
- Week 2: 16<sup>th</sup> Accents, Double Stroke Roll Development,  
Tap Roll Development
- Week 3: Triplet Roll Timing, Roll Fulcrum Ex., Tap Roll Fulcrum Ex.
- Week 4: 3 for 1, Paradiddle Builder, Paradiddles
- Week 5: Herta Sequence, Flam Builder, Flam Variations
- Week 6: Flam Drag Builder, Invert-A-Builder, Flam Variations
- Week 7-12: Exercises and Music for 2010 Fall Drumline Audition

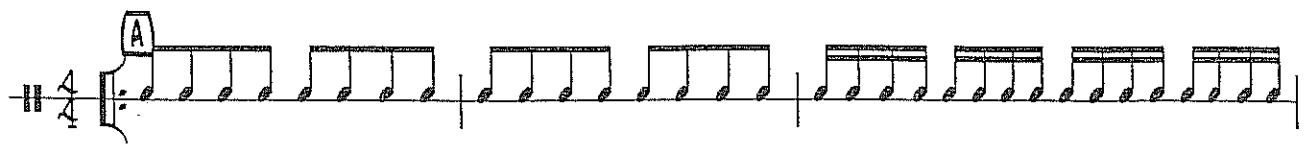
SNAKE DRUM

# OKTIBBEHA COUNTY SINGLES

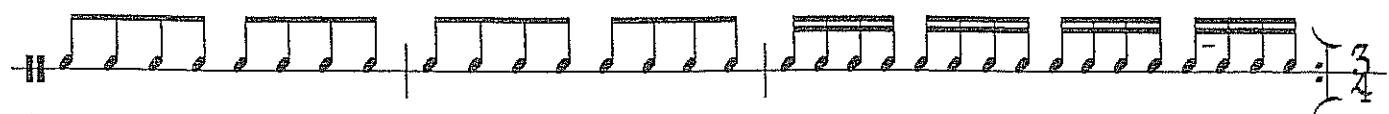
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY DRUMLINE

2006

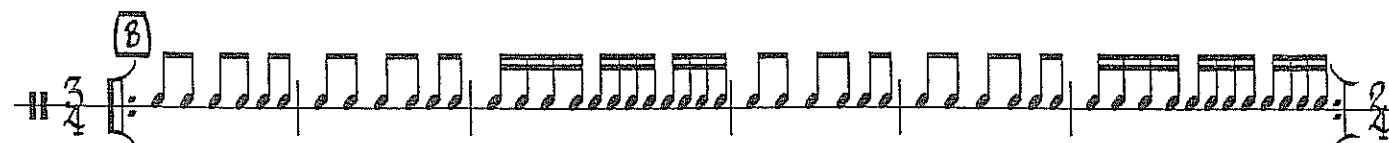
BAKER



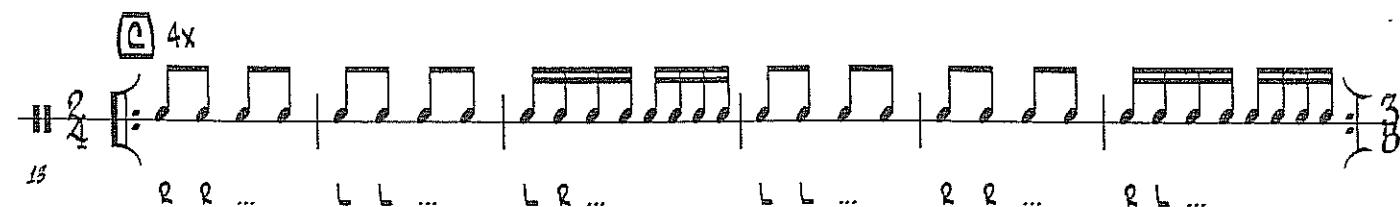
R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L R ...



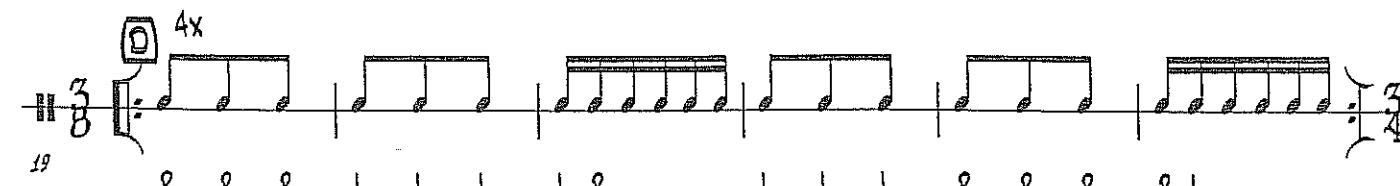
L L L L L L L R R R R R R R R L ...



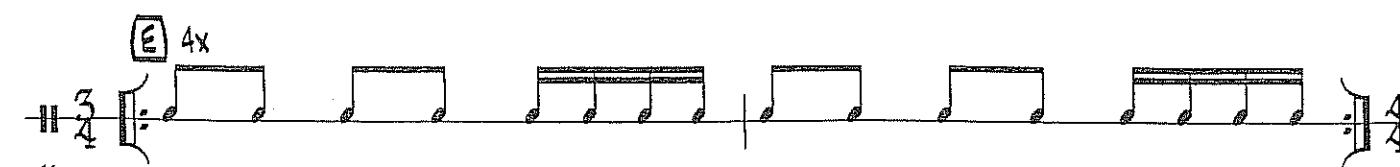
R R ... L L ... L R ... L L ... R R ... R L ...



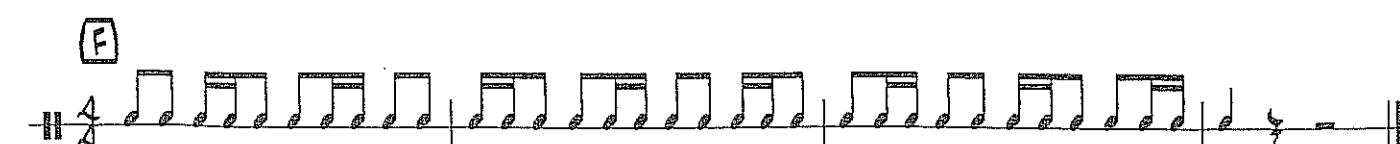
R R ... L L ... L R ... L L ... R R ... R L ...



R R R L L L L R ... L L L R R R R L ...



R R L L R L R L R R R R L R L R L



R L L 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0

# Singles and Doubles



R R R R ...  
L L L L ...

L L L L ...  
R R R R ...

R R R R ...  
L L L L ...



R R R R ...  
L L L L ...

L L L L ...  
R R R R ...

R R R R ...  
L L L L ...



R L R L ...

R R L L ...

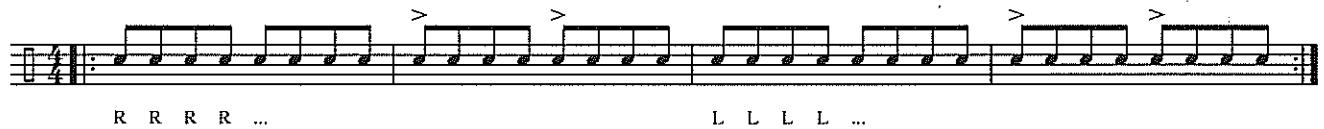
R L R L ...

R R L L ...

R

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# Accent/Tap



4/4 time signature. Measures 2-3. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The first measure ends with a fermata over the eighth note.

R R R R ...      L L L L ...



5/4 time signature. Measures 4-5. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands.

R R R R ...      L L L L ...



5/4 time signature. Measures 8-9. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands.

R R R R ...      L L L L ...



5/4 time signature. Measures 12-13. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands.

R R R R ...      L L L L ...



6/8 time signature. Measures 16-17. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands.

R R R ...      L L L ...



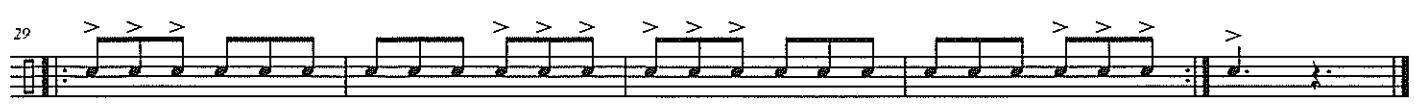
6/8 time signature. Measures 20-21. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands.

R R R ...      L L L ...



6/8 time signature. Measures 24-25. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands.

R R R ...      L L L ...

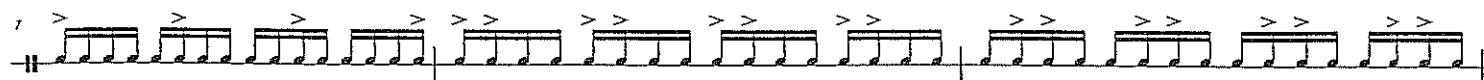
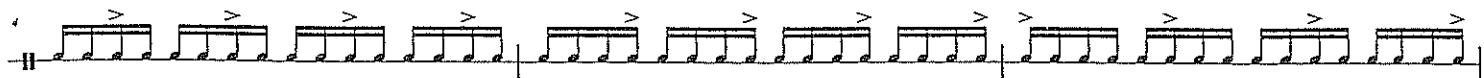


6/8 time signature. Measures 28-29. The first measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The second measure shows sixteenth-note patterns for right (R) and left (L) hands. The third measure shows a single eighth note for the right hand (R).

R R R ...      L L L ...      R

# 16th Accents

*practice with right and left lead  
also, as tap drags, flams, flam drags, etc*



# Open/Double Stroke Roll Development



R L R L R L R L R R L R R L R R L R R L

3



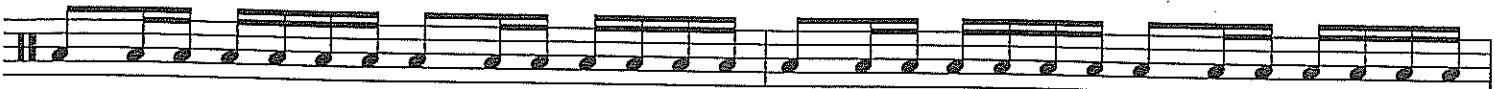
R L R L R L R L R L L R L L R L L R L L

5



R L R L R L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L

7



R L L R R L L R L L R R L L R L L R R L L R R L L

9



R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L

11



R R L L R R L R R L L R R L R R L L R R L L R R L

13



R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R

# Tap Roll Development

1 > R L R R L R L R L ... > R L R L R L R L > R L L R L R L L R L > R L L R L R L L R L >

5 > R L R R L R L R R L > R L R R L R L R R L > R L L R R L L R L L R L L > R L L R R L L R R L L >

9 > R L R L R L R L > R L R L R L R L > R L L R L R L R L > R L L R L R L R L >

13 > R L R R L R L R L > R L R R L R L R L > R L L R R L R R L L R R L R R L L R L L >

17 > R L L R R L > R R L L R L L R R L > R R L L R L L R R L L R >

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# Triplet Roll Timing

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2009

1 R L R R L L R R L R L L R R L L R R L L  
2 R L R R L L R R L R L R L L R R L L R R L L  
3 R L R R L L R R L R L R L L R R L L R R L L  
4 R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L  
5 R L R L L R R L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L  
6 R L R L L R R L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L  
7 R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L  
8 R L R L R L R R L R R L L R R L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L

# Roll-Fulcrum Exercise

The sheet music consists of six staves of musical notation for a single drum or snare drum. The notation uses vertical stems with dots to indicate stroke direction. Measure numbers 1 through 22 are present above the staves. Measure 1 starts with a common time signature (indicated by a 'C') and changes to a 7/8 time signature at measure 5. Measures 1-4 show a repeating pattern of eighth-note rolls followed by sixteenth-note fulcrums. Measures 5-8 continue this pattern. Measures 9-12 introduce a new pattern where the rolls are longer. Measures 13-16 show a return to the previous pattern. Measures 17-20 introduce another variation. Measures 21-22 conclude the exercise.

R R R R ...  
L L L L ...

5

9

13

17

22

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# Tap-Roll-Fulcrum Exercise

The sheet music consists of six staves of musical notation. The first staff starts at measure 1, 4/4 time, with a bass clef. It features a continuous sequence of eighth-note patterns: a single eighth note followed by a sixteenth-note tap, then a sixteenth note followed by a sixteenth-note tap, and so on. Measure 1 ends with a repeat sign and a bass clef. Measures 2 through 6 continue this pattern. Measure 7 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 8 starts with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 9 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 10 begins with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 11 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 12 begins with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 13 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 14 begins with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 15 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 16 begins with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 17 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 18 begins with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 19 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 20 begins with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 21 begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, continuing the pattern. Measure 22 begins with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature, ending the piece.

R R R R ...  
L L L L ...

5

9

13

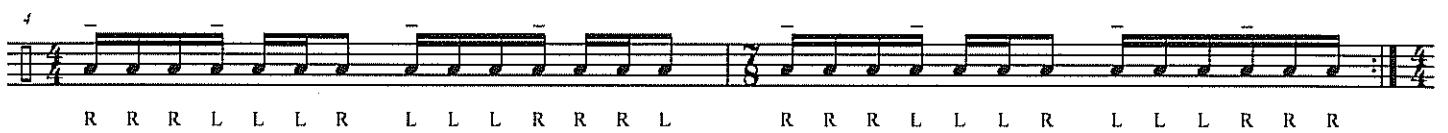
17

22

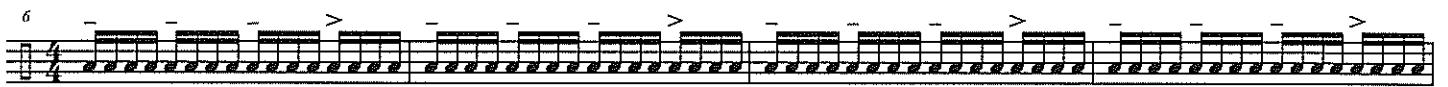
# 3 for 1



R R R L L L R R R L L L      R R R L L L R R R L L L R R R      L L L R R R L L L  
L L L ...



R R R R L L L R      L L L R R R L      R R R R L L L R      L L L R R R R



R R R L R R R L R R R L R R R L L L R L L L R L L R R R L R R R L L L R L R L L



R R R L R R R L L R L L L      R R R L R R R L L R L R L L      R R R L L R R R L L L      R R R L L L R R R L L L      R

# Paradiddle Builder

The image shows four staves of musical notation for paradiddle builder exercises. Each staff consists of a five-line staff with a common time signature and a bass clef. The notation uses eighth-note patterns with '3' above them, indicating triplets. Below each staff is a corresponding hand pattern:

- Staff 1: R L R R ...
- Staff 2: R L R R L R R ...
- Staff 3: R R ... R R L L ... R L R R R L L ...
- Staff 4: R R ... R R L L ... R L R R R L L ... R

# Paradiddles

Sheet music for paradiddle drum rudiments. The music is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines. Each measure contains a series of sixteenth-note patterns with '">>' symbols indicating specific strokes. Below each measure is a corresponding sequence of drum rudiment patterns:

Measure 1: RLRRRLRLL...  
Measure 2: RLRRLRLL...  
Measure 3: RRLRLLRL...  
Measure 4: RRLRLLRL...

Measure 5: RLRRLLRLRRLRR LRLRRRLRLLRLL RLRLRRRLRLLRLRR LRLRLLRLRRLRRRL

Measure 6: RLLRLLRLRLLRLRR LRRLRRLRRLRLL RLLRLLRRLRRLRLL RLLRLRRLRLLRLRRRL

Measure 7: R L L R L R R L R L L R      R R L R R L L R      R L R R L L R L R R L L R

# Herta Sequence



RLRLRLRRLRRRLRL RLRLRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRLRLLRLRL RLRLRLRRLRRLRL



RRLRRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRLLRLRLRL RLRLRLRRLRRLRL



RRLRRLRRLRRL RLRLRLLRLRRL RLRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRRLRRLRRL



RLRLRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRRLRLLRLRL RLRLRLRRLRRLRL



RRLRRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRRLRRLRRL RLRLRLLRLRLRL RLRLRRLRRLRRL



RRLRRLRRLRRL RLRLRLLRLRRL RLRLRRLRRLRL RLRLRRLRRL

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# Flam Builder

## Single Flams

4:4 time signature, 16 measures. Each measure consists of two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note with a right-pointing arrow above it, indicating a flam. Below the notes are the corresponding drum strokes: R, L, R, L.

## Alternating Flams

5:4 time signature, 16 measures. Measures 1-4: RRRRRRRR, LLLLLLLL. Measures 5-8: RLRLRLRL. Measures 9-12: RLRLRLRL. Measures 13-16: RLRLRLRL.

## Flam Taps

9:4 time signature, 16 measures. Measures 1-4: RRRRRRRRRR, LLLLLLLLLL. Measures 5-8: RR LL RR LL RR LL. Measures 9-12: RR LL RR LL RR LL. Measures 13-16: RR LL RR LL RR LL.

## Flam Accents

13:4 time signature, 16 measures. Measures 1-4: RRRRRRRR, RRRRRRRR. Measures 5-8: LLL LLL LL LLL LLL LL. Measures 9-12: RLR LRL RLR LRL. Measures 13-16: RLR LRL RLR LRL.

## Pataflaflas

19:4 time signature, 16 measures. Measures 1-4: R RRR RRR RRR RR. Measures 5-8: LL LLL LLL LLL L. Measures 9-12: RLR LRL RLR LRL. Measures 13-16: RLR LRL RLR LRL.

## Inverted Flam Taps

22:4 time signature, 16 measures. Measures 1-4: RLR LRL RLR LRL RLR L. Measures 5-8: RRR RRR RRR RRR RR. Measures 9-12: LLL LLL LLL LLL. Measures 13-16: LLL LLL LLL LLL.

25:4 time signature, 16 measures. Measures 1-4: RL LR RL LR RL LR. Measures 5-8: RL LR RL LR RL LR. Measures 9-12: RL LR RL LR RL LR. Measures 13-16: RL LR RL LR RL LR.

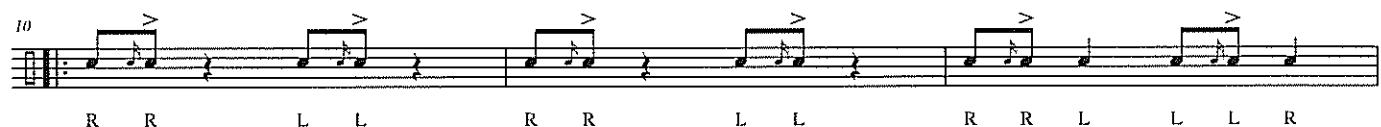
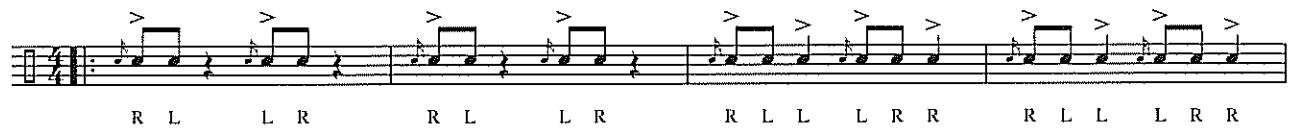
# Flam Drag Builder

The sheet music consists of six staves of 16th-note patterns. Each staff begins with a measure containing a single note followed by a fermata. The patterns are as follows:

- Staff 1: R L L R | L R R L | R L L R L | L R R L R
- Staff 2: R L L R L | R R L | R L L R L | R R L | R L L R L | R R L
- Staff 3: R L L R L R R L | R L L R L R R L | R L L R L R R L | R
- Staff 4: R L R L R L | R L R L R L | R R L R L L R L | R R L R L L R L
- Staff 5: R R L R L L R L | R R L R L L R L | R R L R L L R L | R
- Staff 6: R R L R L L R L | R R L R L L R L | R R L R L L R L | R

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# Invert-A-Builder



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# Flam Variations

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**Single Flams**



R L R L R L R L      R L R L R L R L      R L R L R L R L R L R L

**Flam Taps**



R L R L R L R R L L      R L R L R L R R L L      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L L R R L L

**Painfulflas**



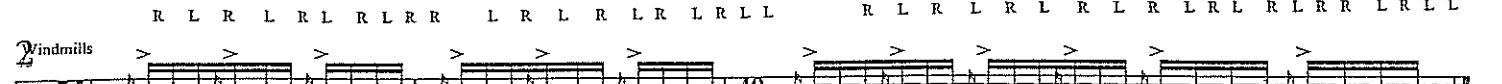
R L R L R L R L R L      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

**Flam Paradiddle**



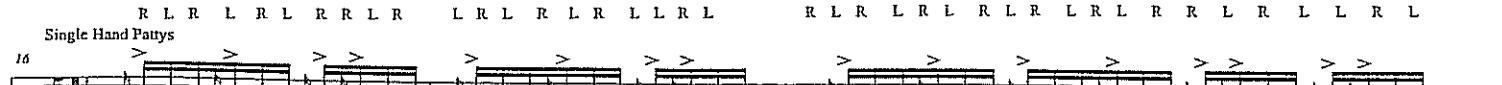
R L R L R L R L R R      L R L R L R L L R L L      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

**Windmills**



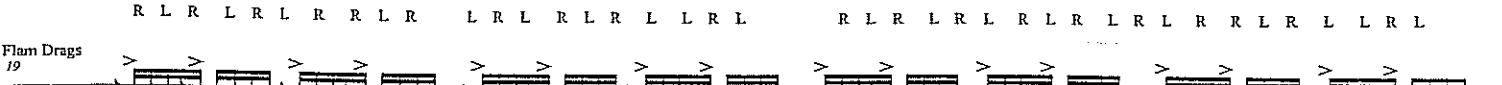
R L R L R L R R L R      L R L R L R L L R L      R L R L R L R L R L R R L R L R L L R L

**Single Hand Pattys**



R L R L R L R R L R      L R L R L R L L R L      R L R L R L R L R L R R L R L R L L R L

**Flam Drags**



R L R L R L R L R L R L      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

**Cheeses**



R L R L R L R L R L R L      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

**Flam 5's**



R L R L R L R L R L R L      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

**Inverts**



R L R L R L R L R      R L R L R L R L R      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

**Cheese Inverts**



R L R L R L R L R      R L R L R L R L R      R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L