



Sound Enhanced

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Pseudo-Songo

BY ALBE BONACCI

These are Latin-inspired patterns with an eighth-note cymbal pattern and songo-type snare and bass variation. They are useful for dressing up an eighth-note rock, pop, or funk feel, or when a Latin feel is not needed for the entire tune.

Here is a basic example. It's not much different from a stock songo except for the 1 and 3 on the kick, and the eighth-note cymbal pattern, which should be accented on the quarter-note pulse. Later, you can explore accenting on the "ands."

hi-hat w/pedal bass drum large tom snare drum medium tom

small tom ride cymbal cymbal bell hi-hat w/stick open hi-hat

Example 2 has snare on 2 and 4. Accent on the "a" of 2 and 4 and play a *baiiao*-style bass drum.

On the next three patterns we'll alternate between the bell and the body of the ride cymbal and include toms.

You can really take the second half of this next pattern into a linear funk or sixteenth-note fill pattern direction.

Toms can be substituted for snare drum in the second half of this next pattern.

This next pattern uses a *baiiao*-type foot pattern with open hi-hat (played by the left hand) on the "e" of 2.

Finally, here's a two-bar pattern that is songo style in the first bar (with lots of toms) and *baiiao* style in the second bar, with toms in the second half.

Experiment with off-beat eighths on the ride, and use the hi-hat pedal when riding on the ride cymbal, including playing on all four beats, playing on the "ands," and splashing on the 1 and closing on the "and." Adhere to the written accents initially, but feel free to move them when needed or wanted. It's almost impossible not to have fun with these patterns, so do have fun with them, indeed!

Albe Bonacci is a studio and performing drummer and clinician in Los Angeles. He has worked with a variety of artists, performed on the former ABC-TV sitcom *Ellen*, played for stage productions, performed on live radio for Los Angeles TheatreWorks, and played on the soundtrack of the forthcoming 20th Century Fox film *First Daughter*. Albe has also recorded with such studio legends as Desmond Child ("Livin' La Vida Loca") and Diane Warren ("How Do I Live," "I Don't Want To Miss a Thing"), Jack Segal ("When Sunny Gets Blue"), and David Grahame ("To Be With You").

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