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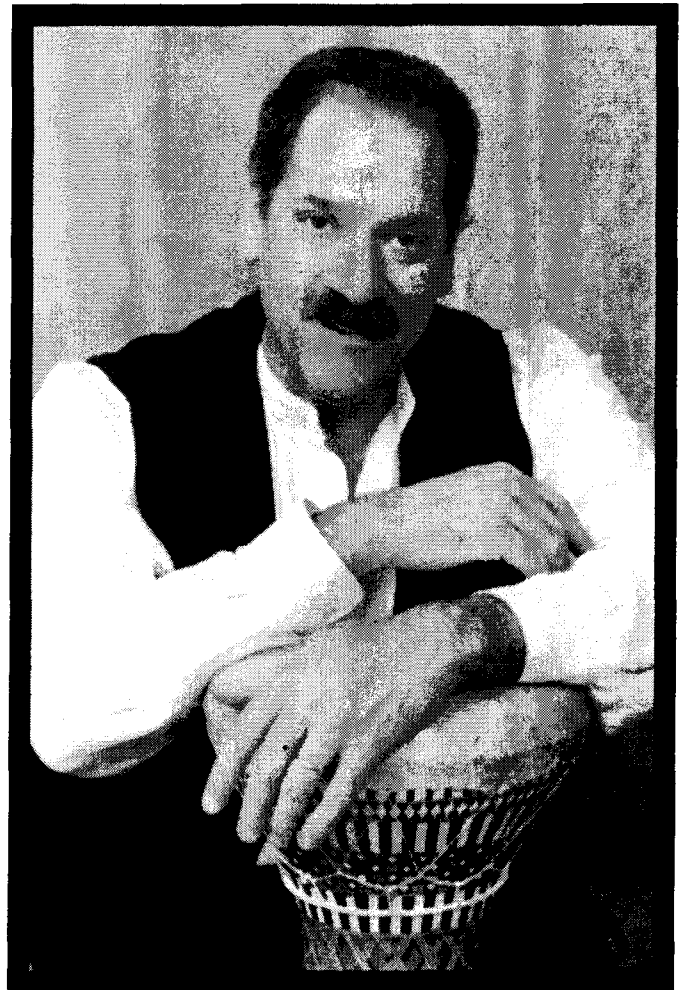
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About the Author

Professional percussionist John Marshall is a life-long student of world drumming traditions. He has studied with such noted percussionists as Dong Wook Park, Royal Hartigan, Paul Price and Glen Velez. He also attended the Mannes College of Music, New York University, Wesleyan University and the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. John joined the National Guitar Workshop in 1992, where he created their popular Hand Drumming Seminar. Since that time, he has presented numerous workshops across the country, and has joined the faculties of several schools where he presents in-depth training in hand percussion.

John has performed and recorded with Benjamin Verdery, Harvie Swartz, Michael Brecker, Danny Gottlieb, David Darling, Glen Velez, The Paul Winter Consort and many other noted musicians and ensembles. He has toured the United States, performed internationally and has appeared on dozens of CDs.

Known for his facility in frame drumming and Middle Eastern hand percussion, John is much in demand as a teacher, recording artist, and performer. He resides with his wife and two children in Litchfield, Connecticut.



Track
1

The CD that is available for this book can make learning with the book easier and more enjoyable. The symbol shown to the left will appear next to every example that is on the CD. Use the CD to help insure that you are capturing the feel of the examples, interpreting the rhythms correctly, and so on. The track numbers below the symbols correspond directly to the example you want to hear. Track 1 will explain how to use the CD.

Chapter 3

Basic Rhythms

Before we begin to explore the many fascinating hand drums and rhythms from around the world, we need to become familiar with reading rhythms. The next three pages are devoted to helping you develop your rhythm skills as quickly as possible, so that we can jump right into West African rhythms.

For this chapter, you should use a hand drum such as a djembe or a conga. Put the frame drums (such as the tambourine) aside until later. For now, simply alternate between the right and left hands as marked (you can reverse the instructions if you are left-handed). Enjoy learning the rhythms and don't pound too hard on the drum.

Whole, Half and Quarter Notes

Below are some easy rhythms to get you started, using whole notes, half notes, quarter notes and quarter rests. Notice that all the exercises are in 4/4 time. Count aloud as indicated under the music (rests are in parenthesis) and have fun!

R = Right hand
L = Left hand

♩ = 60

R R R R L R L R R

Track 2

Count: 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

♩ = 60

R R R L R R L R R L

Track 3

Count: 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

♩ = 60

R R L R L L R L L R R

Track 4

Count: 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

♩ = 60

L R L R L R L R

Track 5

Count: (1) 2 3 4 (1) 2 3 4 (1) 2 3 (4) (1) 2 3 4

♩ = 60

R L R R L L R L

Track 6

Count: 1 2 (3) 4 1 (2) 3 (4) (1) 2 (3) 4 1 2 (3) 4