

Lesson:Stealing From Sam

Stealing From Sam is a Scottish piece with a few Swiss rudiments thrown in for good measure. It is dedicated to Sam Fullerton ; lead tip (first drummer) of a pipe band I once played in. This piece is based on many of the fine rhythms I learned from him. It is interpreted in Scottish style.

The rolls in Scottish bands(bagpipes and drums), are often played closed (more than two beats per stroke). Their charts are written in the Fritz Berger one-line method which uses the space above the line for the right hand and the space below the line for the left. As is common in this type of music the notes are grouped together with note bars connecting as many notes together as would be contained in a quarter note.

One of the peculiarities of Scottish notation is the writing of tap rolls. A tap roll is a roll which is started with a single stroke and continued with either double or closed strokes. The accent at the beginning of the roll denotes that the roll begins with a single tap. The piece also makes use of a common Scottish rudiment known as a windmill. It is similiar to the single flammed mill but is phrased as a triplet figure. The double stroke with the flam can occur on any part of the triplet. The figures are swung throughout. Metronome setting 76 sounds good.

Closed 5-stroke roll:

Windmill(variation 1):

L R R L L R L R L R

Windmill(variation 2):

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

Windmill(variation 3):

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

Flammed 5-stroke roll (variation 1):

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

Flammed 5-stroke roll (variation 2):

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

R R L L R L R L L R R L R L
or: L L R R L R L R L L R R L R L R