

BRASILIAN RHYTHMS AND DRUMMING TECHNIQUES



Dr. Jason Koontz
Director of Percussion Studies
Eastern Kentucky University

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF AFRO-BRASILIAN MUSIC

- *Call and response**
- *Rhythmic complexity (syncopation & polyrhythm)**
- *Structure based on melodic/rhythmic ostinato patterns**
- *Use of timeline/clave**
- *Music as means of communal participation**

SAMBA

- AFRO-BRASILIAN URBAN POPULAR SONG/DANCE FORM

Carnival samba (e.g. *Samba Batucada* and *Samba Enredo* (Rio, São Paulo), *Axé* (Bahia))

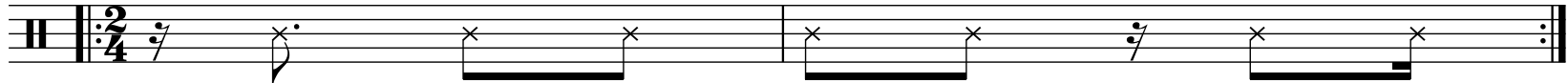
- Characterized by heavy percussion, songs about themes presented in Carnival

Pagode (Year-round) samba

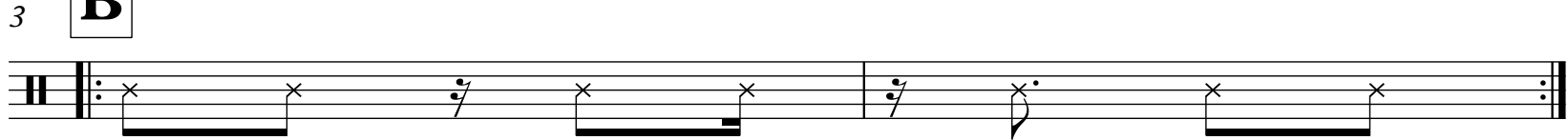
- Characterized by light percussion and plucked string accompaniment (guitar, cavaquinho)
Songs often satiric, witty, improvised

Partido Alto Rhythm Variations

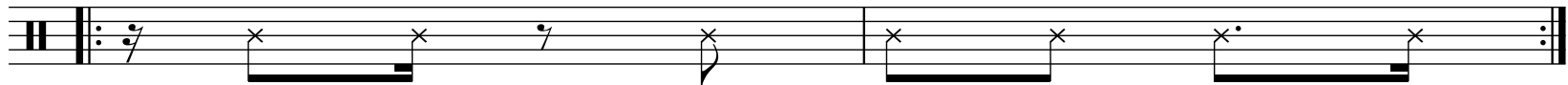
A



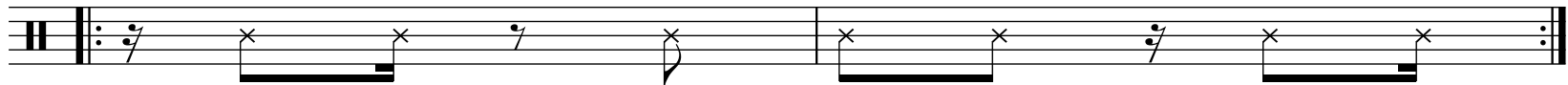
B



C

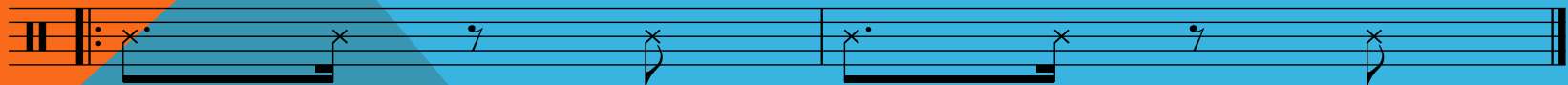


D



E

9 *"*palma da mão*" rhythm



PAGODE INSTRUMENTS:

Surdo de Mão – Bass drum instrument played with the hand (a.k.a. Tan Tan, Rebolo)

Tamborim (tom-boo-reem), a small single-headed frame drum

Pandeiro, (pahn-dey-roo) a tambourine

Reco-Reco (hecko-hecko) – scraped metal spring instrument (like a metal Guiro)

Cuica (Kwee-Ka) friction drum

Cavaquinho – Brazilian counterpart to the Portuguese Cavaquinho, and Ukulele (steel strings G-D-B-G)

Pagode (pah-go-jee) rhythms

A pattern 1

B pattern 2

Cuíca

Tamborim

Pandeiro

Surdo

**"Teleco-teco" rhythm (based on Partido Alto)*

r mute r open

r l r l r l r l

The *Pandeiro* and Playing Techniques:

Thumb Stroke – a hit with the thumb that bounces off the drumhead near the rim allowing the tone to ring

Fingers stroke – a hit with the finger tips that presses into the drumhead briefly, stopping the tone

Heel stroke – a hit with the heel of the right hand near the rim of the drum

Slap – a hit near the center of the drumhead with fingers spread apart and left briefly on the drumhead

Drumhead finger damp – press the middle finger of the hand holding the drum into the drumhead. L = dampen; _ = hold finger on drumhead; empty box = release finger from the drumhead

Samba #1 – Right hand only

Count

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Say

Ba - tu - ca - da Ba - tu - ca - da

Fingers

	R		R		R		R
R				R			
		R				R	

Thumb

Heel

Samba #2– With left hand damp

Count 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Say Ba - tu - ca - da Ba - tu - ca - da

Fingers

Thumb

Heel

Damp

	R		R		R		R
R				R			
		R				R	
L	—	—	—		L	—	—

Samba #3– Right hand slap

Count

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Say

Ba - tu - ca - da Ba - tu - ca - da

Slap

Fingers

Thumb

Heel

Damp

			R				
	R				R		R
R				R			
		R				R	
L	–	–	–		L	–	–

Sound Shapes - by Remo



***Retail is about \$90 for a set of 5 shapes
- beaters included**

Soundshape Samba Jam!

A

*"Teleco-teco" rhythm (based on Partido Alto)

The musical score is written for five staves, each with a different instrument or technique:

- baby shape:** Features eighth notes and rests. The first measure has a slash through the stem, and the second measure has a slash through the stem with a dot above it.
- shape 2:** Features half notes with stems pointing up and down, and eighth notes.
- shape 3:** Features eighth notes and rests. The first measure has a slash through the stem, and the second measure has a slash through the stem with a dot above it.
- shape 4:** Features eighth notes and rests.
- BIG Shape:** Features eighth notes and rests. The first measure has a slash through the stem with the word "mute" below it. The second measure has a slash through the stem with a dot above it and the word "open" below it.
- Agogo:** Features eighth notes and rests. The first measure has a slash through the stem, and the second measure has a slash through the stem with a dot above it.
- Shaker:** Features eighth notes and rests. The first measure has a slash through the stem, and the second measure has a slash through the stem with a dot above it.

The score is in 2/4 time and includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, stems, and articulation marks. The background of the score is divided into two colored regions: orange on the left and blue on the right.

INSTRUMENTS OF THE BATERIA

**In addition to the pagode percussion instruments:*

apito (ah-pee-toh), a three-pitched whistle

agogo, a double bell

repinique (heh-peh-nee-keh), a medium double-headed drum and lead drum

surdo (sir-doh), a large double-headed bass drum

ganzas (ghan-zahs), metal or gourd shakers

Caixa (ky-sha), a snare drum

timba (tim-bah) a single-headed, cone-shaped drum

Samba Batucada Rhythms

This musical score is for a Samba Batucada rhythm, consisting of eight staves. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Ganza:** A high-pitched instrument with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (v) and 'x' symbols.
- Agogo Bells:** A pair of bells with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Pandeiro:** A tambourine with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (v) and 'x' symbols.
- Tamborim:** A small drum with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (v) and 'x' symbols.
- Repique:** A pair of drums with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (v) and 'x' symbols.
- Caixa:** A snare drum with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (v) and 'x' symbols. Below the staff, the letters 'r' and 'l' indicate the right and left hands.
- Surdo 2:** A large drum with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (v) and 'x' symbols.
- Surdo 1&3:** A large drum with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (v) and 'x' symbols.

The score is divided into four measures. The first measure is marked with a repeat sign. The second measure is marked with a repeat sign. The third measure is marked with a repeat sign. The fourth measure is marked with a repeat sign. The score is set in 2/4 time. The background features a blue gradient and a blue triangle.

Samba - "FUNK-E"

This musical score is for a Samba piece titled "FUNK-E". It is arranged for a seven-piece percussion ensemble. The score is organized into four measures, with a repeat sign at the beginning of each measure. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Ganza:** Plays a continuous rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (>).
- Agogo Bells:** Plays a melodic line consisting of quarter notes and eighth notes, marked with accents (>).
- Pandeiro:** Plays a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, marked with accents (>).
- Tamborim:** Plays a complex rhythmic pattern with eighth notes and quarter notes, marked with accents (^).
- Repique:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (>).
- Caixa:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with accents (>).
- Surdos:** Plays a melodic line with quarter notes and eighth notes, marked with accents (>).

The score is presented on a white background with a large blue and orange graphic element at the bottom left. The notation includes various rhythmic symbols such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, along with dynamic markings like accents.

QUESTIONS???



Many Thanks.....

NSSBE

Eastern Kentucky University

Brasilian Music, People, and food!

Contemporanea, Pearl, Vic Firth

*Please leave your email address on the lists provided around the room for an invitation to a Dropbox folder containing lesson plans, Brasilian music MP3s, ,music transriptions and more.