

Open handed -The wave of the future

By Dom Famularo and Stephane Chamberland

Some people makes waves, some people ride the waves and some people spend all their time looking for the beach. — The Cycle Of Self Empowerment by Dom Famularo P.15 www.cycleofselfempowerment.com



Here we are in the 21th century with new concepts and techniques from which to learn. Everywhere in the world, people try to improve their skills to become better musicians and to surpass limits. In every aspect of life, I think we should find new ways to be open-minded because we all can make a difference.



Recommended for soft playing.



Recommended for loud playing.

The drumset, like every other instrument, is growing; thus, the way we play the instrument is improving. We just need to watch the new players perform to realize that the future will be a treat. Gene Krupa, in his book page 53, shows us that in his time, people were playing the right hand on the hi-hat and the left hand on the snare with the left hand on top to play louder and the right hand under to play softer. Today, we just put the hi-hat higher to hit harder. But one day, a wise man named Billy Cobham invented open-handed playing. This is simple, and means: Never cross your arms!

The benefit of this technique is tremendous. Try to play a beat with your left hand on the hi-hat and your right hand on the snare drum and be creative. You can move your snare hand around the toms to create new sounds and hear the music. Dom influenced Steph and convinced him that this kind of playing is the wave of the future. Do you remember when the double bass pedal was just becoming popular? Some people were very anxious about playing this, and many others thought that this was just a thing that would not stay around for a long time. To the contrary, the double bass pedal is now a part of the modern drumset!

With open-handed playing, you can now put two ride cymbals and two hi-hats in your drumset. We use two different-sized hi-hats and two different-sized ride cymbals. So, on our right, we can play a groove with our right hand on the hi-hat without crossing our arms, and on our left, we can play with our left hand on the other hi-hat while playing the back beat with our right hand.

Einstein said that we can not solve new challenges with old solutions. Today, with the evolution of the drum set, we need a new solution. Open-handed playing is the new solution. Think about it: We must not settle for "good"; but rather strive for "best". Always try to find the best in your life, in your playing. Drumming is about expression, and with open-handed playing, you will be capable of expressing yourself with the best tool!

We have been playing this way for a few years, and let us tell you something: We will never come back to cross-sticking. Simon Phillips, Carter Beauford and Will Kennedy use this technique. Now, persevere, quitting is not an option. Enjoy the journey!

For more info: www.domfamularo.com and www.stephanechamberland.com