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#### Acknowledgments

The Life Support Team:

"The Way You Do The Things You Do"
Behind any successful project there is a team of individuals whose dedication, work, faith and patience make it a reality; this is mine! This is dedicated to the six outstanding individuals who have shaped my life the most. My wife Renee, mother Maria, and sister Patricia, my mentors Kent Clinkingbeard, and Ralph Johnson and Al McKay of Earth, Wind & Fire. My deepest gratitude for their love, friendship, wisdom, encouragement and faith in my abilities!

# The Commandments of R&B Drumming Credits:

Project Line Managers - Joe Testa and Howard Goldberg

CD recorded at R.M.I. Music Productions, Sherman Oaks, CA by Russ Miller Music Play-Alongs written by Zoro, Robby Robinson,

Fino Roverato and Rex Robinson

Drum portion of CD produced and mixed by Russ Miller

Music portion of CD produced by Robby Robinson & Zoro

Music mixed by Robby Robinson and Russ Miller Keyboards - Robby Robinson

Guitar - Fino "Skank Funk" Roverato

Bass - Rex "Tripoperous" Robinson

Sax - Tommy Alvarado

All drums played completely live by Zoro - \*\*No drum machine or programming was used for this recording

#### **Notes About the CD:**

"The Funky Monk," "Souledified," and "Sho-Nuff" (© 1997 Zoro the Drummer Music/LazyR Music (BMI), All Rights Reserved) written by Zoro and Robby Robinson, Fino Roverato and Rex Robinson, are used by permission. These recordings may only be used in connection with *The Commandments* of *R&B Drumming*, and may not be broadcast, reproduced or sold separately without written permission from the composers.

NO SAMPLING OF ANY KIND IS PERMITTED FROM ANY PART OF The Commandments of R&B Drumming.

To my children Jarod and Jordan. You fill my heart with unspeakable joy and inspiration! I love you both and love being your father above all things!!!

#### The Dream Team:

"Wanna Thank You,----- Yeaaaaah!

I would humbly like to give thanks first and foremost to God the Father, for the gift of life and music and for all the creative abilities you have bestowed upon man. To the Holy Spirit for giving me purpose, dreams and visions and the spirit and courage necessary to pursue them. To my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for giving me more abundant and eternal life. An extra dose of love goes to my wife Renee for all her hard work and patience. From the bottom of my heart I give a standing ovation to my partners Russ Miller, Brian Mason, and Robby Robinson for their awesome talent, friendship and for their incredible work ethic. It has been a blessing and an honor to work with all of you. This book would not have been possible without your expertise; you are simply the best! I love you guys.

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"I Just Wanna Give Gratitude"

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and amazing contributions to the world of soul, funk and hip-hop. Thanks to the following organizations for their contribution to the advancement of drumming and education, I'm privileged to know and work with you and your staff: Berklee College of Music, *Modern Drummer* magazine, Percussive Arts Society, National Drum Association, International Association of Jazz Educators and The Rock n' Roll Hall of Fame.

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This book is dedicated in loving memory to my mother Maria. Here we are at the beginning of our journey. It was from her that my passion, faith, zeal, and lust for life derived. She was a tremendous source of encouragement, joy, and love. None of my musical achievements would have been possible without her. She was the greatest mother a boy could have and it was an honor to be her son. Thanks for believing in me mother! I'll see you heaven.

#### **Cover Art Credits and Special Thanks:**

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Rex Robinson uses Hartke Amps and La Bella strings exclusively. Fino Roverato uses La Bella strings, Matchless amps, and Heritage guitars exclusively.













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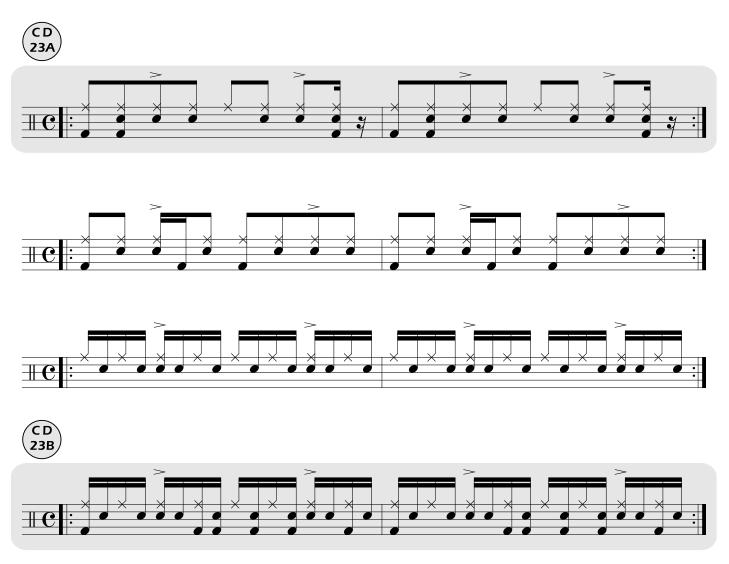
"There has never been anyone I enjoyed making music with more than Lenny." Zoro Modern Drummer, September 2004

Live in Portugal with Lenny Kravitz on the Baptism Tour. This was an incredible tour and a great reunion between Lenny and I. It was pure magic!!!

## Ghostbusters Pt.2, 8<sup>™</sup>

### The Funky Stuff Under The Groove

Ghost notes are just as prevalent in funk as they are in soul music. Their usage in funk is based around 16<sup>th</sup> notes. The following are some exercises and grooves that focus on ghosting on the snare drum around an 8<sup>th</sup> note time feel. The same ghosting philosophy applies to these patterns as in exercise one in chapter one. Some of these patterns have you playing the snare drum and bass drum simultaneously on syncopated 16<sup>th</sup>s. These may take a minute to line up but they're real "fonky"!





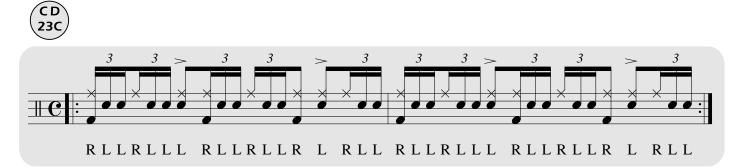
It was a great honor to play at the Modern Drummer Festival in 2005 for this spectacular triple DVD release by Hudson Music. This performance allowed me to express the many sides of my playing that had not been captured on tape before. I taught extensively on playing the half-time shuffle, played an extended solo and a killer Latin song called "Samba 4-2." This is one of the most inspired and emotional performances of my career







RLLRLLL RLLRLLR L RLL RLLRLLL RLLRLLR L RLL



### 32<sup>ND</sup> Note Phrasing:

