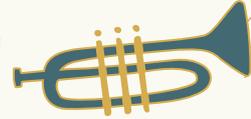




This is

JAZZ!



EPISODE 1: HOW TO LISTEN. LIKE REALLY. REALLY LISTEN TO JAZZ

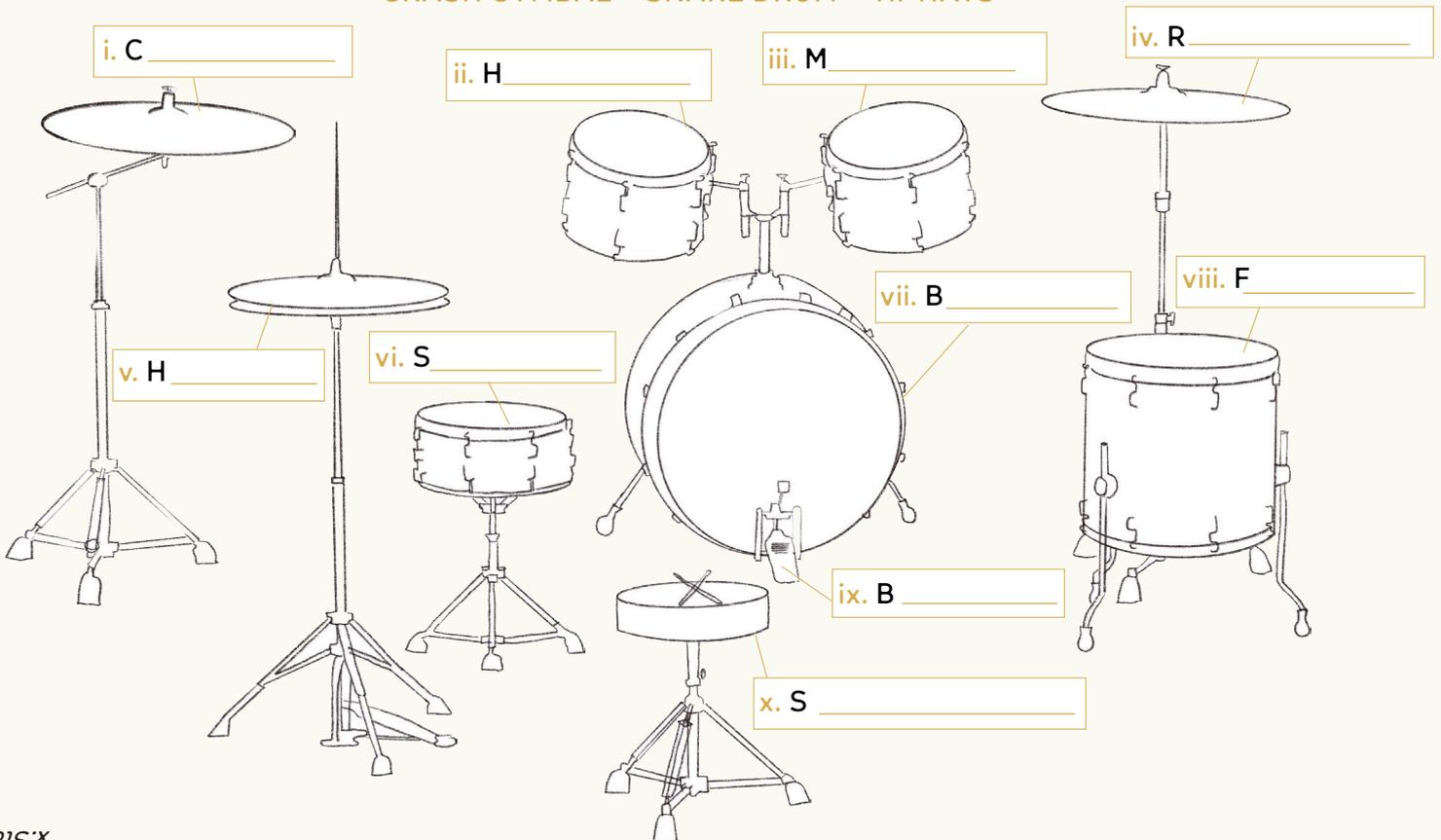
1. STAYING IN THE POCKET

In jazz, musicians play around with time, pushing and pulling to fit their intricate melodies. This helps to create the sense of tension and release we hear and feel throughout the jazz performance.

While mastery of rhythm and time-feel could take a musician their entire lifetime, it is essential to understand the foundation of rhythm, especially as it relates to the drums.

a. Name the different parts of the drums in the illustration below. Use the helping words to help you fill in the empty boxes.

BASS PEDAL FLOOR TOM STOOL MEDIUM TOM HIGH TOM RIDE CYMBAL BASS DRUM
CRASH CYMBAL SNARE DRUM HI-HATS



Answers :
i. Crash Cymbal, ii. High Tom, iii. Medium Tom, iv. Ride Cymbal, v. Hi-Hats, vi. Snare Drum, vii. Bass Drum, viii. Floor Tom, ix. Bass Pedal, x. Stool

b. Now that you know what makes up a drum kit, complete the sentences as to how the different parts of the drum contribute to the sense of time in music.

- i. The hi-hats help to establish accents on beats (a) _____ and (b) _____ .
- ii. The ride cymbal helps to establish a stronger swing feel by playing in between the beats, also known as the _____ note.
- iii. The drums and _____ help to establish the rhythmic foundation of jazz and swing music.

Answers: i. (a) 2 (b) 4, ii. skip, iii. bass



Did you know that drummers interact with the band a lot through the use of their snare drum! In doing so, they have a conversation with the rest of the musicians throughout the song and accompany the band. This is also known as “comping”!

2. POP STARS AND THEIR JAZZ SIDEMEN

Here in Singapore, our local jazz musicians are known to grace the big stages with the biggest names both locally and in the region.

Check out these musicians who have made their mark in not only the jazz world but other genres too!



JOSHUA WAN

PIANO AND KEYBOARDS

Joshua Wan is most recently known as the songwriter for the 2020 National Day Song, Everything I Am, sung by Nathan Hartono. Lesser known is his involvement with some of the biggest pop stars from the region and that he has been active in the local and regional music scene since the 90s!

Over the decades, Wan has performed artists like Tanya Chua, Dick Lee, Sandy Lam, Mavis Hee etc.





TAMAGOH

DRUMS

Tamagoh has been performing alongside Singapore's "King of Swing", Jeremy Monteiro since the 80s. Throughout his career, he has been highly regarded as one of the most popular session musicians (a musician who records in the studio). Some International names he has performed with include Ronan Keating, Frances Yip, Sarah Brightman and Coco Lee.



SEBASTIAN HO

GUITAR

Sebastian Ho is known as one of the most versatile musicians in Singapore, crossing genres from rock to pop, jazz to musical theatre. This has led him to be involved both in live shows as well as studio sessions for a multitude of artists in various different contexts, whether it is duo, trio or big band. Artists that Ho has performed with include Stefanie Sun, Laura Fygi, Kit Chan, Siti Nurhaliza and Singapore's "Papa Rock", Ramli Sarip.



BEN POH

BASS

The youngest in this pool of musicians, Ben Poh has already established himself as the first-call bassist for both local and regional artists, having performed at various music festivals.

Among others, Ben has performed recently with Jeremy Monteiro, Joanna Dong, Nathan Hartono and Kit Chan.



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