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# The Author/Aldo Mazza

Aldo Mazza is the founder and artistic director of the KoSA International Percussion Workshops, Drum Camp and Festival, and is a member of the internationally acclaimed percussion ensemble Répercussion. He is an internationally recognized drummer, percussionist, recording artist, composer, clinician, and educator. He is also an accomplished editor, producer, event organizer, and publisher.



Aldo began as a drummer in rock bands before entering musical studies at the university level. He received a Bachelor of Music in classical percussion performance, with a minor in jazz performance from McGill University under Pierre Béluse. He continued with graduate studies in ethnomusicology at l'Université de Montréal. Aldo has attended many summer intensive studies and music camps over the years, such as the Eastman School of Music, Jamey Aebersold's® Summer Jazz Workshops, National Stage Band Camps, National Marimba Camp, Banff School of Fine Arts, Ludwig Percussion Symposiums, The Barton Workshop with John Cage, Hofstra University, and Drummers Collective. He has learned from masters: Trichy Sankaran, Glen Velez, Bernard Purdie, Ed Soph, Kenwood Dennard, Jamey Haddad, John Beck, Keith Copeland, Frankie Malabe, Dave Samuels, Chet Doboe, Sam Ulano, Robbie Gonzalez, Gary Burton, Art Roberts, Abraham Adzenyah, Sangare (master drummer from the Ivory Coast), Changuito, Giraldo Piloto, Giovanni Hidalgo, Narada Michael Walden, Jim Chapin, Jim Blackley, and Pete Magadini.

Recording over 100 CDs, he has recorded with Céline Dion, Jon Bon Jovi, Nikki Yanofsky, and Aldo Nova. He has also worked and recorded with Michel Pagliaro, The Cooper Brothers, Phil Wilson, Armas Maiste, The Montreal Jubilation Choir, Claude Bolling, Nancy Martinez, Al Martino, Frank Sinatra, Jr., Bobby Vinton, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, Shirley Bassie, Peggy Lee, David Amram, André Gagnon, Ginette Reno, Catherine Lara, Nanette Workman, Marvin Hamlisch, and Alain Caron. His live performances include such reputable and diverse artists as James Brown, Chris de Burgh, and Oliver Jones. His extensive classical training has also led him, along with his group, to perform as soloist with major symphony orchestras in the classical, world music, jazz, and contemporary music genres.

Aldo has appeared in numerous film documentaries, radio programs, television shows, and publications. Aldo was house drummer for a national television show *Laprade Pop*, and has performed on many national television specials in Canada, the United States, and Europe. He has participated in several important film soundtracks including *Les Plouffe* and *The Pines of Emily Carr*. He has also performed in many Broadway musical productions such as *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oklahoma!*, and *Jeanne la Pucelle (Joan of Arc)*. He has been the subject of many film and television documentaries in Canada, the United States, and Italy. There are numerous interviews with Aldo in print from around the world, as well as several book citations including Furfaro Amedeo's *Calabresi d'America: storie di musicisti* (Italy: Edizioni Periferia), and Maurie Lishon and Rob Cook's *Franks for the Memories* (Michigan: Rebeats Publications).

With Répercussion, Aldo has performed well over 2,500 concerts around the world, including major festivals and world expositions—the Hong Kong Arts Festival, Expo '86 in Vancouver, Expo '92 in Seville, Athens ArtsFest, Le Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, the Toronto International Festival, and the Quebec City 350th anniversary. Répercussion was the first western percussion ensemble to perform in Beijing in 1987. They have been guest artists with major symphonies, including the National Arts Centre Orchestra and l'orchestre symphonique de Montréal.

Aldo has composed many percussion ensemble works and has produced an instructional DVD in collaboration with Hudson Music. He regularly travels around the world to give workshops and clinics. He is a past percussion instructor at McGill University, has a private teaching practice in Montréal, and teaches around the world via computer. Under the umbrella of KoSA, Aldo organizes educational study trips and cultural exchanges to Cuba. He has established collaborations for intensive educational study programs in Italy and China. His diverse professional background in rock, pop, classical, world music, and jazz, along with his keen interest in ethnomusicology, has led him to create his personal, hybridized percussion approach to playing.

In his long career, Aldo has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Grand Prix du Disque du Canada. He was nominated for the Juno Award for Album of the Year, and was a five-time recipient of the Canadian Council for the Arts grants for field studies in music in New York, Havana, Cleveland, and Los Angeles. In addition, he has received a special Montreal Drumfest Achievement Award, as well as other awards of distinction from Cuba, the "Havier Vilardel" award in Ciego de Ávila, and the Cuban Ministry of Culture award for artistic distinction called "Gitana Tropical." He is also the recipient of a Drummie Award as runner-up in the International Clinician category from *Drum! Magazine*, as well as induction into the Canada Recording Legacy.



# Longa Language Exercise

**Video 19**

**16.**

This sixteen-measure exercise is broken up into two, eight-bar phrases. Each eight-bar component is meant to work both the *Right and Left* hand technique equally.

2x

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

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

**Total - 8 MEASURES**

Change hands on measure 9

2x

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

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

**Total - 16 MEASURES**



Pedrito Martinez, Aldo Mazza



Rodney Barreto (Chucho Valdes), Aldo Mazza