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KEY TO NOTATION

Tumbadoras/Congas

Musical notation for Tumbadoras/Congas:

- High Drum:** Indicated by a single vertical stroke on the first line of the staff.
- Low Drum:** Indicated by a single vertical stroke on the fifth line of the staff.
- Open Tone:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top on the second line of the staff.
- Slap Sound:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the bottom on the third line of the staff.
- Palm of Hand:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top on the fourth line of the staff.
- Tips of Fingers:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the bottom on the fifth line of the staff.
- Muffle Sound:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top on the first line of the staff.

Bongos

Musical notation for Bongos:

- High Drum:** Indicated by a single vertical stroke on the first line of the staff.
- Low Drum:** Indicated by a single vertical stroke on the fifth line of the staff.
- Tips of Fingers:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top on the second line of the staff.
- thumb area:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the bottom on the third line of the staff.
- open tone:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top on the fourth line of the staff.

Timbales

Musical notation for Timbales:

- high drum:** Indicated by a vertical stroke on the first line of the staff.
- low drum:** Indicated by a vertical stroke on the fifth line of the staff.
- rim shot:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top and a diagonal line pointing up and to the right on the third line of the staff.
- muffled tone:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the bottom on the fourth line of the staff.
- paila:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top and a diagonal line pointing down and to the left on the fifth line of the staff.
- bell:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top and a diagonal line pointing down and to the right on the first line of the staff.

Drum Set

Musical notation for Drum Set:

- rim click:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small 'x' at the top on the first line of the staff.
- high tom:** Indicated by a vertical stroke on the second line of the staff.
- bass drum:** Indicated by a vertical stroke on the fifth line of the staff.
- hi hat:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small 'x' at the top on the fourth line of the staff.
- hi hat w/foot:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small 'x' at the bottom on the fourth line of the staff.
- bell or cymbal:** Indicated by a vertical stroke with a small circle at the top and a diagonal line pointing down and to the right on the first line of the staff.

BASIC MAMBO SCORE

Use of Bells on Timbales & Bongos

A mambo groove can also go to the bells on the timbales mambo bell and the bongo player's hand bell. The following score are the basic bell patterns that are most commonly used today.

2-3 clave.

Clave

Timbales - Mambo Bell

Drum set - Hi-Hat

Bongo Hand Bell

Key: o = mouth of bell + = neck of bell

Congas - Two Drums

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

ETUDE #1

Cha Cha Chá Tempo

Track 01 Master Track

Track 02 Minus Congas

Track 03 Minus Timbales

Recording tempo: quarter note = 110

Note Values: Quarter notes, quarter rests, half notes, half rests

Etude #1 was recorded as a traditional *cha cha chá* which makes use of *güiro*, *congas*, and *timbales*. No solos were taken on this track so that the listener can fully hear how these instruments function.

It is suggested that you listen to the master track first. You can then choose the minus congas or minus timbales track so that you can play-along. Refer to the basic *cha cha chá* score on page 8 for guidelines on how to play this groove. For further information on how to play *cha cha chá* refer to *The Art of Playing Timbales* (Music in Motion Films) by Victor Rendón, pp. 16 – 23.

Note:

The timbales stay on the small bell throughout the piece. There are no bongos on this track, in line with tradition. The bongo player plays *güiro* instead. Notice that the timbales player plays a roll (called *abanico*) after each break. The roll (*abanico*) is played using an open 9-stroke roll. It helps to lead the group back into playing time.

A

abanico

RRLLRLLR

9 Stroke Roll

The following “set up” fill is used throughout the pieces. This fill helps set up the upcoming breaks. This fill is a starting point. Keep in mind that there are other fills that can be used.