

PERFORMANCE NOTES: 'RIDE'

BY ANDREW ROONEY

TWENTY ONE PILOTS

ALL OF A SUDDEN ALL MY STUDENTS WANTED TO LEARN THIS SONG!

I THINK THE DRUM PART IS A HUGE ASPECT OF THE APPEAL ON THIS TRACK. YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF

SEE THE UNBRIDLED ENERGY THIS GROUP BRINGS IN LIVE.

AND JOSH DUN CAN NAIL THE SONG LIVE TOO. BRINGING LOT'S OF CHOPS AND CRAZY IDEAS THAT ACTUALLY BLEW ME AWAY WHEN I WATCHED SOME LIVE FOOTAGE.

I HEAR A LOT OF DIFFERENT INFLUENCES IN THEIR MUSIC FROM HIP HOP, ELECTRO, REGGAE, INDIE, POP AND WHATEVER ELSE YOU WANT TO THROW IN THE MIX. THESE GUYS DO IT GREAT!

FIRST THING (AND EASIEST), I'D RECOMMEND A DIFFERENT SNARE SOUND IF POSSIBLE TO CAPTURE THAT PRE CHORUS REGGAE STYLE DROP OUT. JUST SO THERE'S SOME IMPACT WHEN YOU COME BACK IN WITH THE HARD HITTING 16TH GROOVE. GOOD TIME TO DUST OFF THAT SECOND SNARE AND TUNE IT FATTER THAN YOUR PRIMARY SNARE. FAILING THAT I WOULD MUTE MY SNARE (WITH MY HAND) WHILE HITTING THOSE 2 + 4'S. THERE'S NOTHING ELSE GOING ON IN THOSE PARTS SO THAT'S AN EASY FIX.

A NICE DOUBLE OR QUADRUPLE TIME FEEL IS ACHIEVED BY MIXING IN THE LEFT WITH ONE HANDED 16THS. AND HE CLEVERLY MIXES UP THE STICKING IN THE SECOND VERSE TO MAINTAIN THE BACKBEAT. THIS IS BAR 25 WHEN THE INTENSITY INCREASES IN THE SECOND VERSE.

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

DRUM SET

I HAVE WRITTEN THE CHART OUT TRYING TO AVOID ACCENTS IN ORDER TO KEEP THE PAGE CLEAN.

YOU CAN ASSUME ALL THE ONE HANDED 16TH GROOVES HAVE 8TH NOTE ACCENTS.

SO THIS BAR (CHORUS GROOVE) FOR EXAMPLE...

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ACTUALLY SOUNDS MORE LIKE THIS...

3

BUT IT'S TOO FAST!?

THE TEMPO OF THE TRACK IS 75 BPM WHICH SOUNDS SLOW. IT IS! BUT THE DRUM PART IS IN ONE HANDED 16THS WHICH CREATES A DOUBLE TIME FEEL. IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING TO KEEP UP, I RECOMMEND SMASHING THE PRACTICE PAD WITH SINGLES. YOU'RE AIMING FOR 16TH SINGLES AT 150. HALF THAT.... ONE HAND.... YOU GET 75. GOT IT?

YOU DON'T WANT TO BE HANGING ON FOR DEAR LIFE AT 75. MAYBE PUSH EVEN FASTER ON THE PAD. WHEN YOU COME BACK TO THE KIT GROOVE IT WILL FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE.

THE TRICK TO SPEED IS THERE IS NO TRICK. NO SUCH THING AS A FREE LUNCH. WORK STEADILY AND SLOWLY. JUMP FROM 60 TO 61 INSTEAD OF 60 TO 70. 1 BPM A DAY OR WHATEVER IS COMFORTABLE WILL ALLOW YOU TO REACH YOUR SPEED GOALS (ASSUMING YOU PUT IN THE WORK). START AT WHATEVER TEMPO YOU CAN COMFORTABLY PLAY. RECORD YOUR PRACTISE AND SEE HOW YOU LOOK AND HOW IT SOUNDS.

ARE YOU LOOK TENSE WHEN YOU'RE PLAYING IT? BACK OFF THE SPEED A BIT.

DOES IT SOUND RUSHED OR FORCED (NOT GROOVING)? AGAIN, BACK OFF THE SPEED.

THAT MAY SEEM SLOW PROGRESS. BUT THE TIME WILL PASS ANYWAY. DO YOU WANT TO PLAY THE SONG WELL IN SAY 2 WEEKS? OR STILL NOT BE ABLE TO PLAY THE SONG IN 2 WEEKS? CHOICE IS YOURS!

HOPE THAT CLEARS SOME THINGS UP. THOSE WERE THE MAIN POINTS MY STUDENTS WANTED CLARIFICATION ON ANYWAY!

ALL THE BEST WITH THIS BANGER OF A TRACK.

GOOD LUCK!

