

Groove the Bellz with the Cajon by DAMIEN LIM D.Litt, M.Mus, FRSA, FLCM, LRSM, LGSMD(PPD), ATCL, ALCM, DipABRSM, SpDip(Arts Ed)

You've heard it on the streets, in the subway stations, on stage, even with handbells. But HOW DO WE EXACTLY USE IT to its potential, without sounding like a "soloist". This workshop allows us to learn the fundamentals of playing on the cajon (box-drum) & how to be an effective team player in a handbell ensemble.



MUSIC CAREER (SINCE 1994)

- Singapore Armed Forces Central Band
- Singapore Youth Orchestra
- HeartBeat Percussion Band
- Singapore Symphony Orchestra
- Singapore Chinese Orchestra
- Singapore Pops Orchestra
- World Youth Wind Orchestra (Austria)
- Pop Scene (Kit Chan, Dick Lee, Olivia Ong, David Tao)
- Musical Theatre Percussionist/Keyboardist

THANK YOU FOR THE CAJONS & SOUND SYSTEM.

Malmark
BELLCRAFTSMEN

GREIG ASHURST

Presently, Music Director & Principal Conductor of the award-winning MINISTRY OF BELLZ (MOB, Singapore), Conductor to 6 Handbell School Teams, Special Education Schools, Singapore Special Voices, Band Conductor at ExtraOrdinary People Ltd (a Charity Organisation for Persons with Special Needs), adjunct-lecturer at Singapore Raffles Music College & Executive Director of Handbell Ringers of Singapore Guild (HRSG). Also, consultant to 8 School Handbell Ensembles.

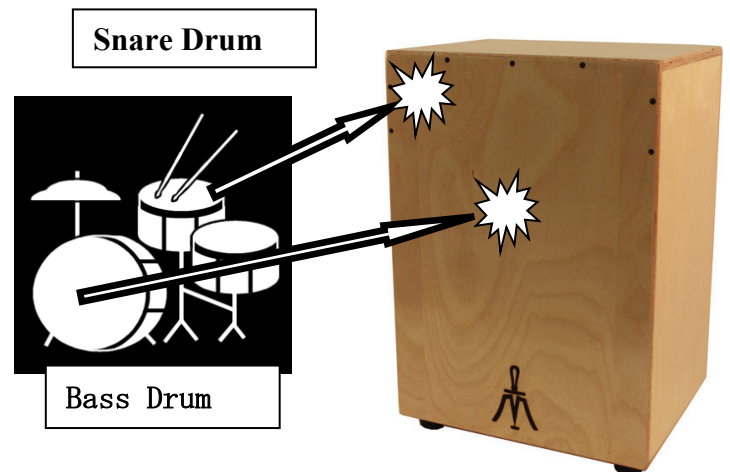
Music Arrangements for Handbells (with Cajon) (All titles available also from Jeffers):

- 1) DI TANJONG KATONG [L2] (H'ing Publishing / HK) – HRSG @ HRJ 40th Anniversary Asia Handbell Festival, Sendai, Japan
- 2) BUNGA SAYANG [L2.5] (MOB Publishing House / SG) – HRSG @ International Handbell Symposium 2018, Cairns, Australia
- 3) IT'S TIME FOR SAYANG SAYANG [L2] (MOB Publishing House / SG)
- 4) OMENS OF LOVE [L3.5] (MOB Publishing House / SG)
- 5) DESPACITO [L3] (MOB Publishing House / SG)
- 6) FRIEND OF MINE – PENG YAO [L2.5] (MOB Publishing House / SG) HRSG @ International Handbell Symposium 2022, Nashville, TN, USA
- 7) MERRY CHRISTMAS MR LAWRENCE [L3] (MOB Publishing House / SG) ... Available from August 2023

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Origins of the Cajon:

- *From Africa to America (Peru) in the 18th Century.
- *Slaves that brought it over, making music in their ships.
- *Europe/USA that modernize this musical instrument.
- *Imitate the sound of a drum set. Easy to carry about.



For classroom purposes at the HMA National Seminar 2023 (Irving, TX, USA)

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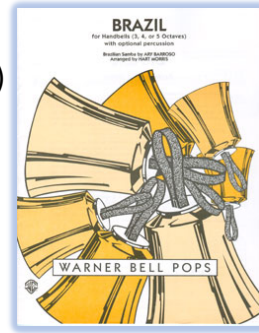
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1) OPENING PERFORMANCE: BRAZIL (Ary Barosso, arr. Hart Morris)

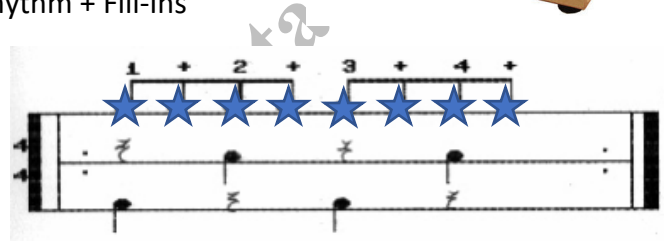
2) INTRODUCTION TO THE CAJON

- Origins
- Sitting Position
- Bass
- Snare
- Extra SFX
- Role of a Percussionist (Drummer)



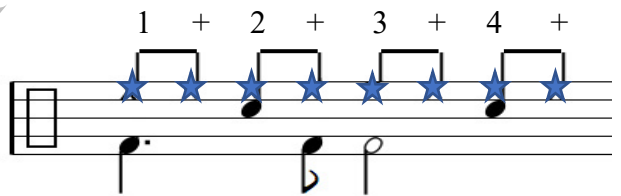
3) Simple Strokes & Basic Back-Beat (Simple 8-beat pop) Rhythm + Fill-Ins

- High Hat (LH) ★
- Snare Drum (RH/LH)
- Bass Drum (RH)



4) 2nd Basic Rhythm (8 beat pop)

- High Hat (LH) ★
- Snare Drum (RH/LH)
- Bass Drum (RH)



5) TRAINING PURPOSES: Trying both rhythms with a metronome (Objective to keep the tempo) MM=90-120

6) Other rhythmic patterns commonly used in handbell ensembles (DEMONSTRATION). Train with music.

- (A) March - eg: The Thunderer March
- (B) Swing - eg: Rock Around The Clock
- (C) Waltz - eg: Most Wonderful Time



A MARCH

B SWING

C WALTZ



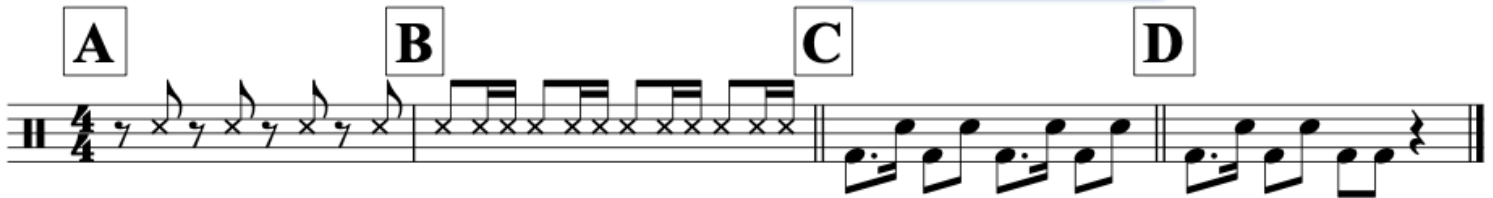
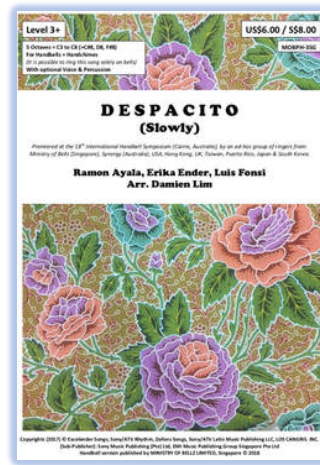
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7) Music Accompanying: **DESPACITO**
 by Luis Fonzi & Justin Bieber / arr. Damien Lim
 (Handbell scores available from Jeffers)



8) ENHANCE your cajon with: SABIAN HHX Dave Weckl Evolution 10" Splash + Schlagwerk Sizzle Board + Schlagwerk Heck Stick

9) Question & Answer

10) Conclusion

a) The cajon is NOT a loud hitting instrument

b) It can be musical.

c) A cajon / box drum player is not a soloist. Don't show off.

d) We are the time-keeper of the band + groove contributors, unless the music calls for us to provide a solo feature.

"LIKE" the **MINISTRY OF BELLZ** on



&



This workshop has been presented in Singapore, Japan, UK, Canada, Hong Kong, Australia and Online, since 2013.

www.mobellz.weebly.com
www.damienlim.weebly.com

THANK YOU

Handbell Musicians of America

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