

THE 2016 MD READERS POLL

MODERN DRUMMER

THE WORLD'S #1 DRUM MAGAZINE

12 PRACTICAL KICK/SNARE FIGURES

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INCREASE YOUR BASS DRUM BPM!

JASON RULLO OF SYMPHONY X

DOM FAMULARO

WANTS TO TEACH THE WORLD TO DRUM... AND COULD VERY WELL DO IT!

DECEMBER 2015



Dom Famularo

about fifty students a week, and I was still playing with bands and doing some jingles in New York City. I wasn't really enjoying the recording industry, though, because at that time there were a lot of heavy drugs involved. I didn't want to get into that, so I pulled myself out and focused on playing with my band and teaching. I started teaching at several different music stores, and I got up to eighty students a week. It was an intense schedule, so my organizational skills developed back then.

At the same time, I kept performing and had the chance to play with many great artists, like [jazz vibraphonist] Lionel Hampton and [guitarist/singer] George Benson. That allowed me to taste what true professionalism was about, while also maintaining my teaching practice. But I never advertised my business. I stayed true to my craft, and people kept coming. This year I'm celebrating fifty years of playing drums professionally and forty-five years of teaching. I still gig regularly with other musicians, and I recently started doing voiceover work for an animated teaching series called *Musimations*.

MD: When did you start writing drum books?

Dom: It was a natural progression. The books that I've written along with Joe



Bergamini for our publishing company, Wizdom Media, developed as I traveled around the world and began to hear about similar drumming challenges people were having. When I hear about the same obstacles over and over, that's a sign that there's a need for a book. *The Weaker Side* developed that way, in order to give drummers a routine to build strength in their nondominant hand and foot.

Similarly, the concept of the WizDom Drumshed franchise developed as students were coming to study with me and wanted to start their own schools. Now there are schools in Quebec City, Canada, with Stephane Chamberland; Calabria, Italy, with Massimo Russo; Paris, France, with Frédéric Rimbert; Marseille, France, with Rob Hiron; Dijon, France, with Eddy Ros; and others potentially opening in the U.K., Brazil, and

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