

## Groove Concepts for Fusion-Funk Music

By Stephane Chamberland

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I began playing with the Carl Mayotte Fusion Quintet in 2018. We have recorded four albums since 2018 and have had the chance to release a play along series for drum and bass with Hudson Music in 2023. Creating the charts was challenging but also an amazing learning experience. In this article I want to share some of the grooves I play in the song "Cocotte" that is available on the Hudson Music web site as a separated track, or the entire book available on the Hudson Music app. I think it's a great idea if you want to use these grooves as exercises. You can create form and also learn from the concepts to create your own grooves.

### Orchestrating the melody on the toms

During the intro, I am orchestrating part of the melody on the toms in a way that will support the music and I am also adding some ghost notes on the snare to create shapes. I was inspired by Dave Weckl for this one. You can actually move your hi-hat hand onto the floor tom without changing the rhythms and it will make the groove sound bigger. You'll notice my right hand is on the floor tom and it's the left hand only that is moving around the toms, keeping the snare on 2 and 4. I have written the groove as straight 16ths, but we are going to swing the 16ths. This is a concept you can apply to many other grooves as well. You want to work this groove up to 91 bpm but start slowly.

