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The True Cuban Bass



Synopsis

This book is written by one of the masters of Afro-Cuban bass playing. It is bilingual and comes with two CDs that have Carlos playing the exercises in the book, as well as some historic Cuban recordings re-issued. It is a complete overview of the evolution of the bass' role in Cuban music, as well as a method book on all the different styles of Afro-Cuban bass playing. Endorsed by Jimmy Haslip, Chucho Valdes, and Paquito D'Rivera.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Let there be no doubt this book is the best of it's kind and at the top of it's class. It's not long but covers the essentials of Cuban bass lines and understanding the rhythms that they come from not just for the bass but for the entire percussion section. There's a nice dose of history to give a background of how these lines were conceived and when to use them in a real live playing or recording situation. After a section on the basics and a section covering some theory and different variations from the standard lines there are some tunes with the bass lines written out note for note and half of those tunes are on the CD. So from this book you get the history, the basics of several different rhythms (danzon, son, bolero, cha-cha-cha, mambo, etc.), some variations and theory, and some real tunes to play along with. I like Oscar Stagnaro's 'The Latin Bass' book as an extension of this one, but get this one first as it focuses more on the history and the basics. The history is important because there's no point in learning this stuff if you don't know when to use it. For anyone studying Cuban bass especially those who did not grow up listening to this music this a must. p.s.

no tab in either of these books.

I purchased this book after getting Oscar Stagnaro's "Latin Bass Book." I am in my second year of playing the bass, and I knew nothing really about latin rhythms or their history. I wanted something to challenge me and this definitely took me out of my comfort zone. It has helped me with my reading and my rhythm. Get this along with Stagnaro's work and you are set.

If you want to play bass in the actual Cuban style, you need this book. It's bilingual and has many examples. It's also a history lesson, which I think is necessary to learn the style. My bass teacher also has this book, and it's an essential part of both our collections.

Information and insight to the roots of traditional Cuban music. A perfect research companion to Oscar Stagnaro's book. Allows the reader to gain a deeper understanding of all the different styles. Clear presentation.

This book is excellent! It details in a short but concise way, the history of the Cuban bass, how the various rhythms evolved and merged. The CDs work beautifully as demonstration and play along practice aids to the concepts described. I would recommend this book to any bass player who wants to further their knowledge, enjoyment and informed playing of this amazing music... Kudos!

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