

Chad Floyd

# **Chatterbox**

for solo hand percussion



**Chatterbox** by Chad Floyd  
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## Program Notes

*Chatterbox* was inspired by the composer's experiences performing hand drums in various musical situations that required efficient setups. To reduce space, a cajon was often substituted for a drum throne when performing hand drums. This allowed for occasional downbeat bass tones and backbeat snare tones to be played with relative ease while keeping a steady groove with the congas and bongos.

## Players and Instrumentation

*Chatterbox* requires **1 player** with the following instrumentation:

- **1 set of congas** (tumba and conga)
- **1 set of bongos**
- **1 cajon** (with snare mechanism)

## Performance Notes

The melodic motives of the piece are comprised of the notes A, B, and D#. In order to give the piece a strong melodic sense, it is recommended that the drums be tuned to the following pitches:

- **Tumba:** A (below middle C)
- **Conga:** B (below middle C)
- **Low bongo:** D# (above middle C)
- **High bongo:** a good, crisp, characteristic sound (roughly a third above the low bongo)

# Notation Key

Cajon

bass tone w/ hand

ghost note

bass tone w/ foot

side w/ foot

bend up

bend down

snare

ghost note

Perform a muted stroke on the bottom front of cajon with heel of foot while keeping toes on the floor.

Strike the side of cajon at the bottom with heel of foot while keeping toes on the floor.

Raise and lower pitch: Press foot against the bottom front of cajon and slide up (raise) or slide down (lower). The beating spot should move from center to edge while raising pitch and from edge to center while lowering pitch.

Tumba

Conga

Bongos

open

slap

open

mute

heel

toe

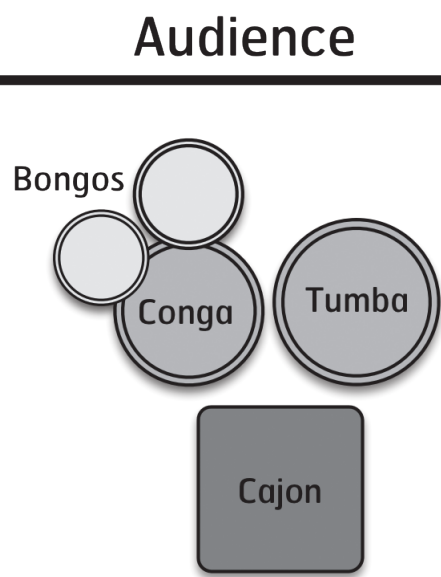
slap

open low

open high

ghost note

# Suggested Setup

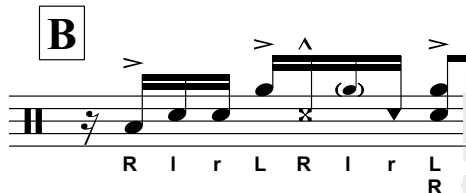
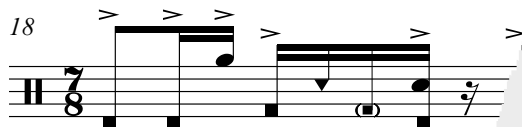
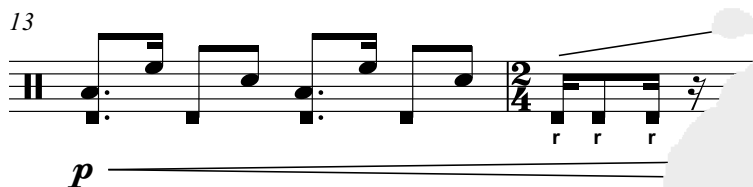
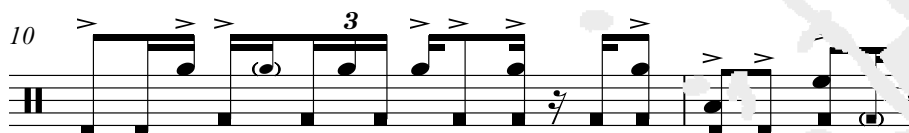
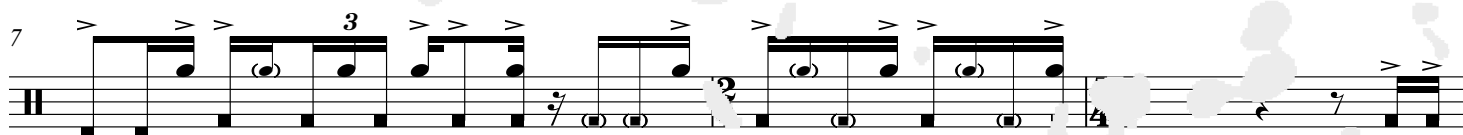
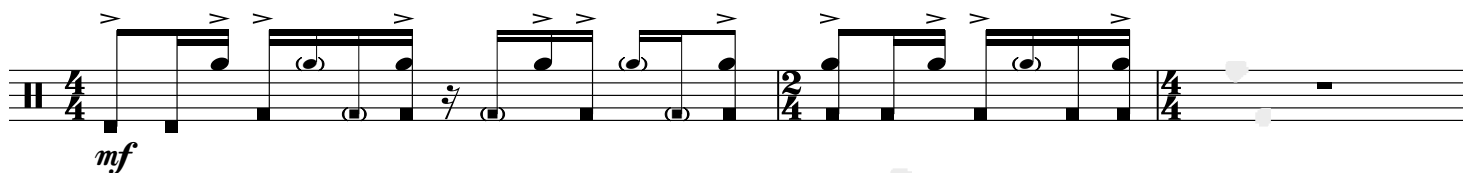


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$\text{♩} = 112$

split hands (drums LH, cajon RH)



Sample  
Image

22

R l r L R l r L R l r L R l r L R l r L R

24 (split hands)

26

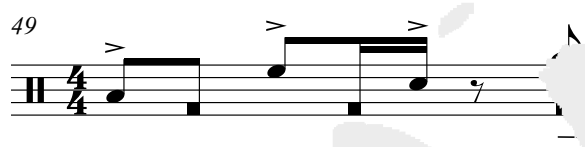
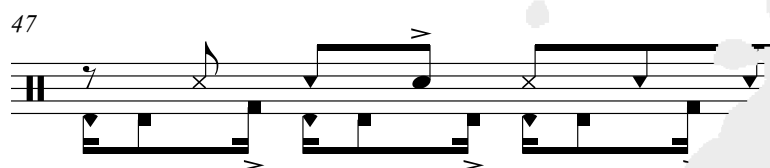
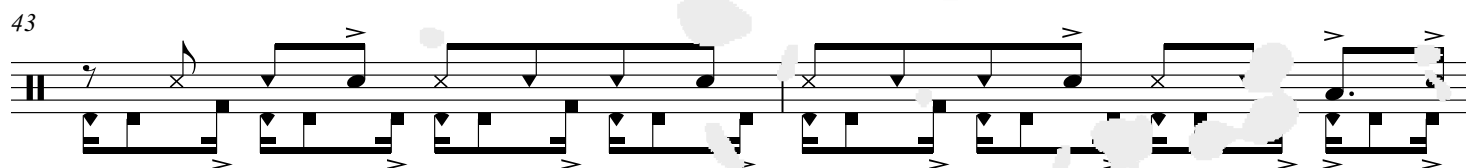
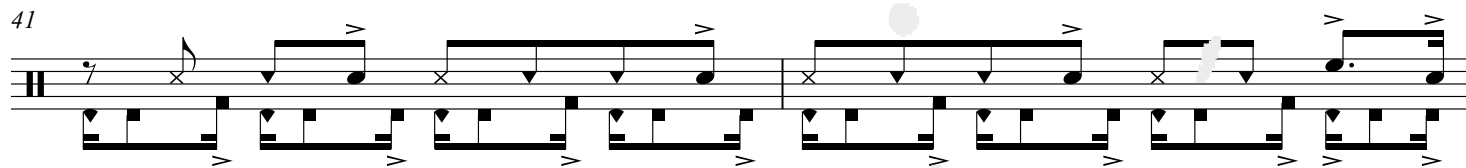
28

*p* *mf*

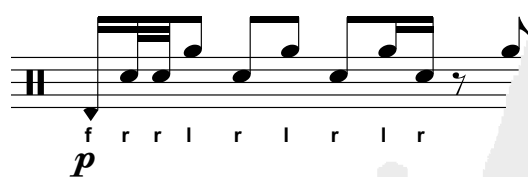
(split hands)

35

36



**E** perform all RH strokes with single fingers near the rim  
perform all LH strokes as dead strokes with the palm



Sample  
Image

57

add fingers with crescendo

*f* r r l r l r l R l r l r l r

**F**

*mf*

62

*mf*

*f*

66

**G** (split hands)

*f*

68

*mf*

71

*p* *f*

73

II 2/4

77

II 4/4

79

II 3/4

81

II 2/4

r l r l r l r

# Sample Image