Rudimental drumming was introduced in the military during the 17th and 18th centuries as a way to relay messages and orders with sufficient volume to troops. The rudimental patterns used were a musical language unique to each army. In 1812, Charles Stewart Ashworth published A New, Useful and Complete System of Drum Beating, helping to establish a more formal listing of Rudiments. Today's Percussive Arts Society International Drum Rudiments (see Drums page 47) include many listed in Ashworth's original publication.

Rudimental Rally

Snare Drum Solo

Bruce Pearson (b. 1942) American Composer















