

# Contest Solos For The Advanced Snare Drummer

8 unaccompanied pieces  
for grade 5-6 players  
by Murray Houllif

## F O R W A R D

This book was written as a follow-up to *Contest Solos For The Intermediate Snare Drummer* (grades 3-4+). These solos were conceived for the serious, practicing snare drummer and will provide material for contest, jury, recital, or auditions.

Metronome markings are given as performance tempi. It is suggested to practice the material slowly, at first, striving for accuracy of rhythm, clarity of articulation, proper dynamics, and expressiveness of the musical phrase. Observe stickings where indicated. Rolls are specified as follows:

1. open/rudimental style - clearly articulated RRLL, etc.
2. closed/orchestral style - a smooth, hand-to-hand series of an indeterminate number of buzzes creating a "long tone".
3. press roll - simultaneously pressing/buzzing both sticks into the drumhead for short duration.

This book is dedicated to my principal snare drum teachers; Sandy Feldstein, James Petercsak and Daniel Perez, who taught that technique along with sensitive musicianship is the goal, and to all those who work hard at the art of snare drumming.

## L E G E N D



on drumhead

\*stick shot

press roll

\* lay tip of left stick on drum head and strike with right stick on shank about 6 inches from tip

## C O N T E N T S

TITLE	GRADE	PAGE
1. Bold Bolero .....	5 .....	1
2. Seven-Down .....	5 .....	2
3. Funky Business .....	5+ .....	4
4. 21 Groove Street .....	5+ .....	6
5. Paradise Paradise .....	6 .....	8
6. Men Of Sherwood Forest .....	6 .....	10
7. A Stroke Of Good Fortune .....	6 .....	12
8. Mess You Up .....	6 .....	14

# 1. Bold Bolero

$\text{♩} = 72$  ( $\text{♩} = 144$ )

All rolls closed/orchestral style

The musical score for '1. Bold Bolero' is written for a single melodic line. It begins with a tempo of 72 beats per minute (♩ = 72) and a dynamic of *ppp*. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35 marked. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/4. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, accents, and dynamic markings. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score. The score concludes with a final measure marked with a double bar line.

*ppp* *cresc. poco a poco*

(*pp*)

(*p*)

(*mp*)

(*mf*)

(*f*)

*fp* *accel.*

*poco accel.*

(*ff*)

*fff* *mf* *sffz*

# 2. Seven - Down

GRADE 5  
duration 1:52

♩ = 176 - 184

All rolls closed/orchestral style

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). It consists of 24 measures, divided into six systems of four measures each. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 7/8. The score includes various musical notations: eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and triplets. Dynamics are indicated by *p* (piano), *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *dim.* (diminuendo). Performance markings include *poco* (a hairpin) and *All rolls closed/orchestral style*. Measure numbers 1, 3, 4, 6, 14, and 22 are boxed. A large diagonal watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid across the center of the page.

1. *p* *poco*

2.

3. *f*

4.

6

14 *mp*

22 *f* *dim.* *p*

*f* *dim.* *p*

*f* *dim.* *p*

30
 
*mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

*mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

*mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

*mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

38
 
*ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

*ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

*ff* *fp* *sf* *fp* *sf* *fp* *ff*

# 3. Funky Business

GRADE 5+  
duration 1:45

New Orleans Street Beat Style ♩ = 80 - 88 (♩ =  $\frac{3}{4}$ )

Slightly loosen snares for a more authentic sound. Buzz press rolls - all others are open/rudimental style.

The musical score is written for a single drum line in 2/4 time. It consists of 33 measures, with measure numbers 7, 9, 17, 25, and 33 marked in boxes. The score includes various drum patterns, including press rolls, stick shots, and complex rhythmic figures. Dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *sf* (sforzando). Articulations like accents (>) and slurs are used throughout. A large diagonal watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Measure 1: *mp* Press roll

Measure 9: *f*

Measure 17: *sf* > *mp*

Measure 25: *mf*

Measure 33: RRLL RRLL RR L

Rhythmic patterns at the bottom of the score include: RLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRL

Musical score for "The Four Seasons: Spring, Part 1" by Vivaldi. The score is written for a single melodic line, likely for a violin or flute. It features a continuous eighth-note pattern with frequent triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over the notes). The tempo is marked 'Allegro'. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various dynamic markings: *cresc.* (crescendo), *sf* (sforzando), *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *cresc. al fine*. There are also articulation marks like accents (>) and slurs. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 11, 41, 49, 57, and 7 visible. A large diagonal watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid across the center of the page.

GRADE 5+ -  
duration 1:50

Moderato ♩ = 88

Moderato 4/4 68

*f* *mp*

9 *cresc.* *sf* *mp* *f*

5

9 *sf* *dim.* *mf* *mp*

3 7

*mf* *mp* *sf* *mp* *f*

17 9

*mf* *cresc.*

5

9 5

*f* *sf*

11 5

*sf* *sf* *mp* *sf*

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25

*sf* *mf*

3 5 3 3 3 3 7

LLR LLR L R LLR L L R RL R LLR R L R LLR R LLR R LLR R LLR L

*f*

33 *mf* *♩ = ♩. L'istesso tempo*

41 *f*

*cresc. al fine*

*sf*



## 5. Paradiddle Paradise

GRADE 6  
duration 2:00

♩ = 96 - 100

All rolls open/rudimental style

21

*sf mp-f*

*mf*

25

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

33

*mf*

*mf*

*cresc. al fine*

*sfz*

## 6. Men Of Sherwood Forest

GRADE 6  
duration 1:42

$\mathbf{j} = 66$

 All rolls open rudimental style

[illegible]

13 25

*mp* *ff*

R L R L R L R L R L R R R L R R L R R L R R L R or L

*mf*

L L R L L R L L R L L R L R R L R R L R R L

*ff*

R L R R L R L L R L R R L R R L R R L R L R L

*mf* *cresc.*

R R L R R L R R L R L R L R L R R L R R L R R L

33 7 11

*sf* *f*

R R L R L R R R R L L R L R L R L R L

R L L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

17

*mf* *sf*

R L R L R L R R L R R

*D.S. al*  $\Phi$

Coda

L L R R L R R L R

*sfz*

## 7. A Stroke Of Good Fortune

GRADE 6  
duration 1:40

Moderato  $\text{♩} = 92 - 100$ 

All rolls open rudimental style

All rolls open rudimental style

5 9

*f* R R LRLR RLR RLRL RLRLRLR RLR R RL R RLR R RLRLR RL

9

R R RLR R RLR RL LR RL LR RR LL RRL LR RLL RLL RL LL

17 7

R R R R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R *sf*

9 6 6 6 6 6 3

*mf* RRLRLRL RRLRLRL RRLRLRL LRLRLRLRL RRLRLRLRL

6 3 3 6 3 3 6 6 6

LRL

3 3 3 3 3 3 13 3 3 3 7

RL LRL

11 3 3 3 17 Stick shot 11

*sf* *f* RL RRLRLRLRL R RRLRL RRLRL L RRLRL RRLRLRLRLRL

Right stick on left stick in air

LRL R RRL



## 8. Mess You Up

GRADE 6  
duration 1:45

♩ = 80-88

All rolls are open/rudimental style

[illegible]

33

*f*

41

*mf*

49

*sf* *f*

*ff* *sfz*

13508

15

Preview Only

15