

Vinnie Colaiuta

GROOVES



From Live & Studio Albums
with Sting, Gino Vannelli,
Robben Ford, Mike Stern,
Jing Chi, Randy Waldman,
Frank Zappa, Karizma, Allan
Holdsworth.

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Transcribed by Eugenio Ventimiglia

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40 Vinnie Colaiuta Grooves

Vinnie needs no presentation. He is widely regarded as one of the greatest and most influential drummers of all times, and deserves every bit of the recognition he gets.

Not only he has unbelievable chops, his groove is also as deep as it gets. Combine all of this with a career spanning five decades (!) at the highest level and you get the picture.

What's even more incredible is that now, in his late sixties, he is still at the top of his game. Unparalleled talent, genius, creativity, dedication, contribution, and ultimately, love for music.

This is a little tribute to the astounding grooves he has played in a variety of genres with some of the greatest artists of our time: Sting, Gino Vannelli, Toto, Robben Ford, Mike Stern, Steely Dan, Jing Chi, Randy Waldman, Frank Zappa, Karizma, Allan Holdsworth, Andy Summers, Bill Evans and more.

I went through my record collection and picked 40 of what in my opinion are some of the best beats he has played, both in studio and live recordings, to put together this PDF.

I recommend checking out the songs mentioned and listen to the way Vinnie sounds in these grooves, to understand not only what but also HOW he plays them.

I believe studying such great masters is a must for every drummer, as practicing ideas like these can be truly inspirational.

So let's get ready to groove hard!

You can click on each groove in the PDF to go to its specific time in the [YouTube video](#) where I show each example.

This is part of my 'Groove Masters' mini-series. A few more are on their way (and [drop me a line](#) if you have any request).

For instance, I have also created three booklets about Steve Jordan, Jeff Porcaro and John JR Robinson, which you can download here:

[Steve Jordan Grooves](#)

[Jeff Porcaro Grooves](#)

[John JR Robinson Grooves](#)

And if you feel like improving your groove even more, check these out:

['Groove Workout & Tools' - Altitude Drumming - Volume 7](#)

['Groove Mastery & Formulas' - Altitude Drumming - Volume 8](#)

The click sound is intentionally mixed on the left channel. Pan to the right to listen to just the drums without the metronome.

Vinnie Colaiuta

Studio and Live Grooves

Sting "If I Ever Lose
my Faith in You" ♩ = 98 bpm

Shuffle Feel

1)

Sting "Saint
Augustine in Hell"

♩ = 168 bpm

2)

Sting
"Seven Days"

♩ = 184 bpm

3)

Sting
"I Hung my Head"
(9 = 5 + 4)

♩ = 200 bpm

4)

Toto "Alone"

♩ = 155 bpm

5)

Faith Hill "Cry" ♩ = 111 bpm

6) Musical notation for Faith Hill "Cry" in 6/8 time. The drum part consists of a steady eighth-note pattern on the snare and bass drum.

Elio e Le Storie Tese ♩ = 102 bpm
"Mio Cuggino"

Shuffle Feel

7) Musical notation for Elio e Le Storie Tese "Mio Cuggino" in 4/4 time with a shuffle feel. The drum part features a syncopated eighth-note pattern.

Eros Ramazzotti ♩ = 115 bpm
"Dove c'è Musica"

8) Musical notation for Eros Ramazzotti "Dove c'è Musica" in 4/4 time. The drum part includes a pattern with alternating right and left hand strokes.
R L R L

Megadeth ♩ = 104 bpm
"Something That I'm Not"

9) Musical notation for Megadeth "Something That I'm Not" in 4/4 time. The drum part features a steady eighth-note pattern.

Gino Vannelli ♩ = 106 bpm
"Seek and You Will Find"

10) Musical notation for Gino Vannelli "Seek and You Will Find" in 4/4 time. The drum part includes a complex pattern with various stroke directions.
R L R L LL RR RR LL

Continuation of the drum notation for Gino Vannelli "Seek and You Will Find".
RR LL R L RR LL R L RR LL R L RR LL R L R L

Mike Stern
"One World"

♩ = 143 bpm

16)

Mike Stern
"One World"

♩ = 143 bpm

17)

Mike Stern
"Chatter"

♩ = 104 bpm

Shuffle Feel

18)

Mike Stern
"Silver Lining"

♩ = 148 bpm

19)

Randy Waldman
"Hawaii Five-0"

♩ = 111 bpm

20)

Randy Waldman
"Mighty Mouse Theme"

♩ = 160 bpm

21)

Randy Waldman ♩ = 183 bpm

"My Favorite Things"

22)

Allan Holdsworth ♩ = 115 bpm

"Against the Clock"

Open Hi-Hat

23)

Allan Holdsworth ♩ = 114 bpm

"Spokes"

24)

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

Jing Chi

♩ = 127 bpm

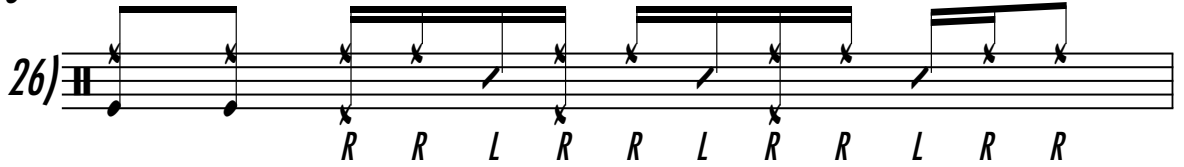
"Crazy House"

25)

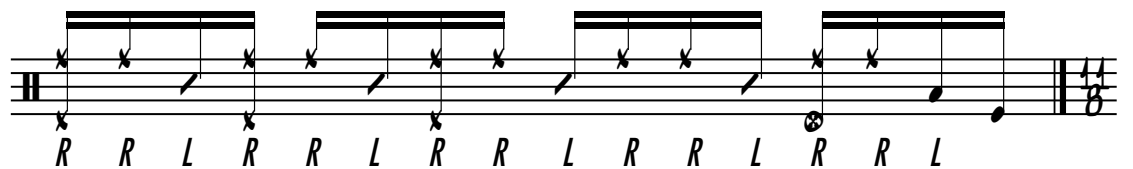
R L R L R R L R R L R R L R L R

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

Jing Chi ♩ = 140 bpm
"Going Nowhere"

26) 

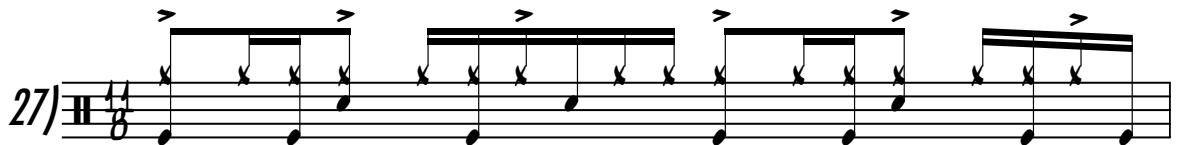
R R L R R L R R L R R

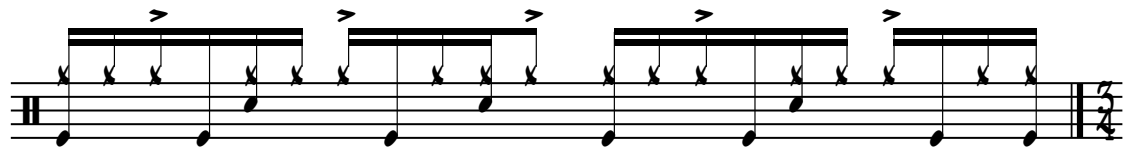


R R L R R L R R L R R L

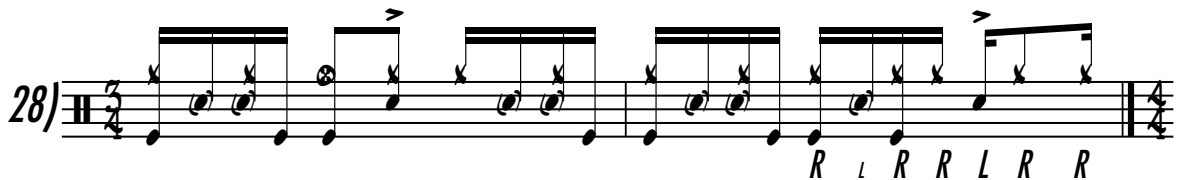
Karizma ♩ = 190 bpm
"Heavy Resin"

Hi-Hat Ostinato

27) 

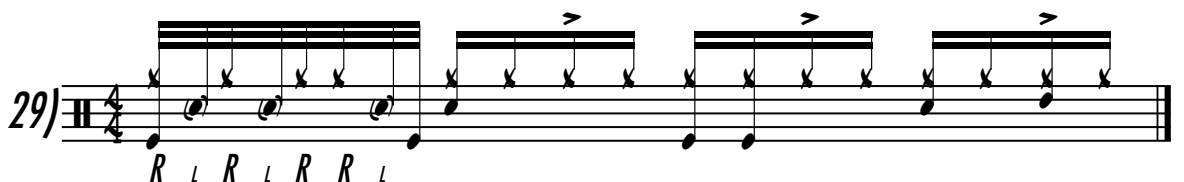


Five Peace Band ♩ = 153 bpm
"Raju"

28) 

R L R R L R R

Frank Zappa ♩ = 74 bpm
"Dong Work for Yuda"

29) 

R L R L R R L

Frank Zappa ♩ = 136 bpm

"Keep It Greasey"

30) Musical notation for 'Keep It Greasey' in 2/4 time. The drum part consists of eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The notation includes accents and a star symbol at the end. Below the staff, the following rhythm is written: R R L R L R L R R R R R L R L R R R.

Chick Corea ♩ = 130 bpm

"Tumba - Live"

31) Musical notation for 'Tumba - Live' in 2/4 time. The drum part features triplet eighth notes and quarter notes. The notation includes accents and a star symbol. Below the staff, the following rhythm is written: R L R L R R L R L R L R.

Vinnie Colaiuta ♩ = 112 bpm

"Chauncey"

Shuffle Feel

32) Musical notation for 'Chauncey' in 5/4 time with a shuffle feel. The drum part features eighth notes and quarter notes with triplet markings. The notation includes accents and star symbols. The piece ends with a 4/4 time signature.

Vinnie Colaiuta ♩ = 105 bpm

"Slink"

Shuffle Feel

33) Musical notation for 'Slink' in 4/4 time with a shuffle feel. The drum part features eighth notes and quarter notes with triplet markings. The notation includes accents and star symbols.

Vinnie Colaiuta ♩ = 126 bpm

"Bruce Lee"

Hi-Hat Ostinato

34) Musical notation for 'Bruce Lee' in 2/4 time. The drum part features eighth notes and quarter notes with triplet markings. The notation includes accents and star symbols.

Vinnie Colaiuta ♩ = 104 bpm

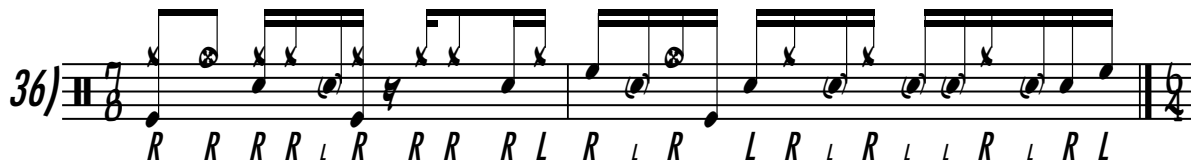
"Bundy Drive"

Hi-Hat Ostinato

35) Musical notation for 'Bundy Drive' in 5/4 time. The drum part features eighth notes and quarter notes with triplet markings. The notation includes accents and star symbols. The piece ends with a 7/4 time signature.

Vinnie Colaiuta ♩ = 226 bpm

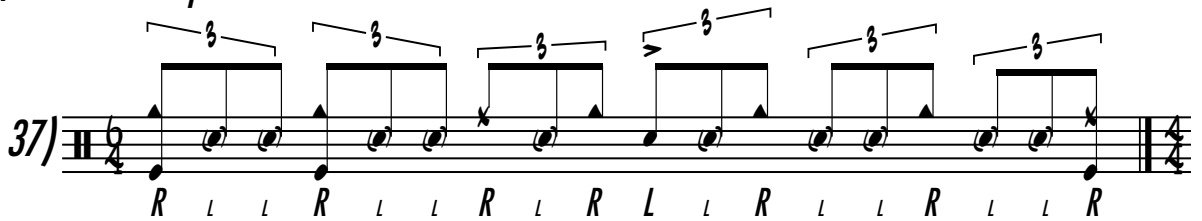
"Baked Potato
Live"

36) 

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

Vinnie Colaiuta ♩ = 206 bpm

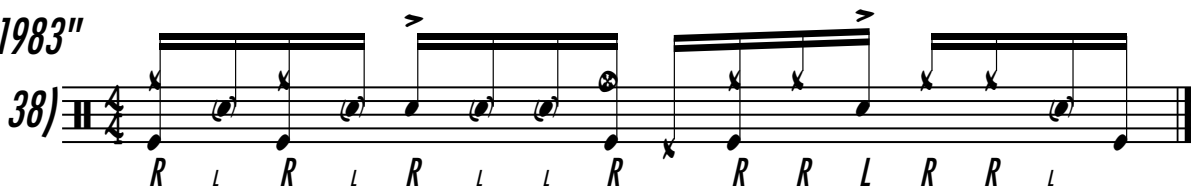
"Baked Potato
Live"

37) 

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

Clinic ♩ = 140 bpm

"Zildjian Day 1983"

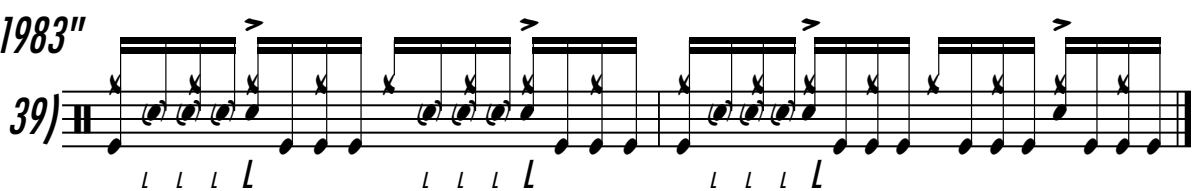
38) 

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

Clinic ♩ = 96 bpm

"Zildjian Day 1983"

Open Hi-Hat

39) 

L L L L L L L L L L L L L

Clinic ♩ = 159 bpm

"Zildjian Day 1984"

40) 

R L R L L

Clinic ♩ = 131 bpm

"Zildjian Day 1984"

41) 