

Periscope Lesson 10
Musical X-rays

When I first moved to Chicago in 2005, Bret Kuhn was kind enough to plug me in to the local teaching scene by inviting me to come work with his students at Prospect HS. Long story short, they were incredible, and by watching how Bret built them up from the beginning of the year through the end of the season, I learned how important the "fundamentals" were when teaching young musicians. Each time you see a group that can play something incredible, realize it's because they are also incredible at their fundamentals.

In Lesson 10, the final lesson of Season 1 of my Periscope Lessons, we bring together all the ingredients of Lessons 1-9. When you see a complicated passage of music, realize you can strip the part down to its "skeleton" and systematically build it back up to the original excerpt through an additive process. The purpose is to ensure that the musical components, e.g. rhythm, sound, dynamics, touch, space, etc., exist at a fundamental level and remain consistent throughout the process.

By taking the Musical X-ray concept I learned from Bret, we strip a complicated musical phrase down to its "skeleton" form by removing all ornaments like diddles and flams, and just playing the base rhythms and stickings. In this lesson, I apply this idea to the spree "Deez Notes," written by my friend, Mark Perrett. It's been such a pleasure meeting and getting to know Mark these past few months - at first online, and then in real life at WGI 2016. I wanted to show my support and admiration for all the work he and John do through The Grid Book Series as dedicated educators to the virtual and real life percussion community.

This is only one example of how a passage can be broken down into its X-ray form. I challenge you to write out and post your own Musical X-rays of musical passages you are working on learning. If you'd like me to check it out, tag me on Instagram @hueiyuanpan. I love seeing people take action and apply the concepts we learn into creating tangible tools and results.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to say thanks to everyone who has tuned in for Season 1 of the Periscope Lessons. The feedback has been absolutely tremendous. If you're just finding me for the first time or would like a review, all the lesson replays can be found on my YouTube channel.

Let me know if I can ever help! -Huei

DEEZ NOTES

Music by Mark Perrett
Musical X-ray by Huei-Yuan Pan

Film 1: Skeleton

For free PDF downloads, video lessons, and additional resources, visit: hueiyuanpan.com/periscope
If the handouts or videos are helpful, please let me know with a comment on the lesson or YouTube page, thanks!

- PERISCOPE LESSON 10

MUSICAL X-RAYS-

Film 2: + Rolls

Film 3: + Herta, Flams

Film 4: + Paradiddle

*Backstick

*Backsticking can be added in any of the Films, but do so only after the correct rhythm and sticking can be performed as written.