

PLAYING WITH TUMBULA

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Words and melody: Ruth Schneidewind



Dm Am Dm Am

Tum-ba - la tum-ba - la wan-ja wan-ja, tum-ba - la tum-ba - la kan-ja kan-ja,

Dm Am Dm Am Dm

tum-ba - la tum-ba - la wa-ki - tu - ka, tum-ba - la tum-ba - la tum.

(Used with permission)

Focal Points for a number of sessions:

Sensory sensitization

(acoustic, visual, tactile, kinaesthetic, balance)

- Listening with eyes closed
- Moving one part of the body
- Exploration with material – without and with melody
- Focusing on pitch, pulse, beat, accents – painting, clapping, patting, stamping

Movement

- Moving isolated parts of the body (levels)
- Feeling 3+3+2+2 on the spot (swaying),
- Feeling 3+3+2+2 walking
- Movement/gesture for 3
- Movement/gesture for 2
- Combine ideas with a partner → sequence

Voice/language

- Use the words of the first bar (x3)
- Use syllable cards from the text:
 - build ostinato (e.g. 4/4 time)
 - (for advanced groups in 10/8)
- Speak ostinati rhythmically
- Vary tempo, dynamics, timbre,
- Combine ostinati over a common pulse

Play materials

- e.g. chopsticks, brushes, sponges ...
- painting/playing on body
- painting in the air
- painting on partner's hands/back
- playing on partners's hands/sticks

Space

- Each phrase in a new direction
- Different parts of the body
- near/far/over/under/between
- around/through/towards/away
- Mirror / shadow a partner
- Paint phases very large / very small

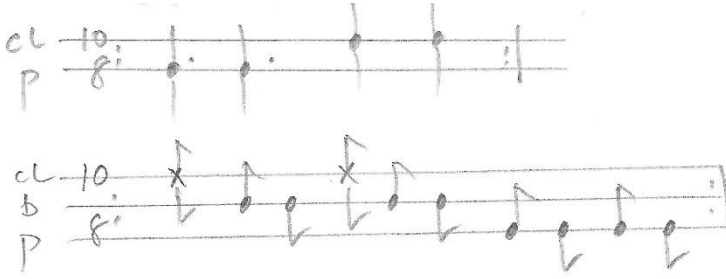
Social playing forms

- With a partner
- For a partner
- Tasks for individuals, pairs, groups

Instruments

Body percussion:

e.g.:



Invent new body percussion ostinati / accompaniments

Small percussion:

Play the beginning of particular words e.g. Tumbula, Wanja, Tum

Play the pulse

Play particular words

Melody:

Learn parts or all of the melody

Play 'tumbula' in the first 3 bars

Play 'wanja', 'kanja', 'wakituki'

Improvise using d, e, f, g, a

Create your own melody using these pitches

Harmony:

Accompany using the pitch A

Learn the bass part

Use 5ths and 3rds of the chords

Forms of participation:

perceiving, exploring, experimenting, playing, communicating, recognising, remembering, imitating, choosing, varying, distinguishing, inventing, creating, practising, performing, reflecting and discussing.