

RHYTHMS OF RESISTANCE



**ROR
Tunes & Dances**

September 2021

History

The first Rhythms of Resistance band formed in 2000 in London out of Barking Bateria to participate in the Pink&Silver bloc in the protests against the World Bank summit in Prague.

Barking Bateria was one of the first Samba bands in the UK, formed by the Radical Anthropology Group at University of East London during a strike in 1996 and taking its inspiration from the “blocos-afros” bands (such as Olodum or Ilê Aiyê) that emerged in the mid-1970s in Brazil. These bands were formed as expressions of black awareness, in defiance of a military dictatorship which viewed any “cultural” group as potentially “communist” and ruthlessly suppressed them. Blocos-afros bands were responsible for blending traditional samba rhythms with reggae, salsa and merengue to create the samba style now known as Samba Reggae. This way they reappropriated Samba, which had originally come from the Afro-Brazilian communities but had been appropriated by the white privileged Brazilian society to be used for entertainment and profit. Today many of the blocos-afros bands still campaign for freedom, human rights and equal opportunities, and fight against social injustice and racism.

Rhythms of Resistance was formed in 2000 to join the UK Earth First action against the IMF / World Bank summit in Prague. A Pink&Silver carnival bloc was organized for the first time, taking inspiration from a movement called “Reclaim the Streets” (RTS), which has been blocking streets around the world since 1995 to create “temporary autonomous zones” and street parties to take back the space usually reserved for cars. Pink&Silver replaced the sound systems of RTS with Samba bands. During the protest, a carnival bloc focused around a 55 piece band detached itself from a march of 67000 and outmanouvered police resources defending the IMF annual summit. With an international “black bloc” and a large contingent from the Italian movement, “Ya Basta”, three diverse forms of direct action worked towards a common goal and resulted in the shut down of the IMF summit. From then on, along with the movement against capitalist globalisation, one group after the other popped up – now we’re all over Europe and occasional in the rest of the world.

The Network

The Rhythms of Resistance (RoR) network comprises more than 75 separate activist drumming bands all over the world. All the bands in the RoR network play the same tunes and try and use the same hand signals. This means at large events, different bands can join up to form a large and exuberant bateria.

RoR bands work on a decentralised and democratic basis. All decisions within each band are made by consensus. No-one is “in charge” and those who have just joined the band have the same voice as those who have been members for many years. Each band operates independently, joining campaigns and actions that they themselves support, but they may join together for large events. When multiple bands meet up and play together, mestres may come from any of the bands present, swapping in and out as mood and movement takes them.

Although each band in the network is an independent entity answerable only to its members, they all share some common beliefs and values that define the Rhythms of Resistance network as a whole:

Principles

We are a transnational anti-hierarchical anticapitalist, antisexist and antiracist network fighting for social and ecological justice.

We are activists using tactical frivolity as a form of political action to confront any system of domination.

We also directly support everybody experiencing or struggling against exploitation, discrimination and oppression, without compromising our principles.

Our tactics include drumming and dancing inspired by samba and carnival.

We reject any false opposition between militancy and creative forms of resistance.

Even if we are different bands operating in a decentralized fashion, we aim to maximise participation in our collective process.

We are an open network to any people who share our principles.

Come with us! We have everything to play for!

Cultural Appropriation

Cultural appropriation is the adoption of elements of a minority culture by members of a dominant culture, while using these elements outside of their original cultural context. These cultural properties may be forms of dress, music or art, religion, language, intellectual property or social behavior, all of which may have deep cultural meaning to the original culture, but may be used as fashion by those from outside that culture.

Often, the original meaning of these cultural elements is lost or distorted, and such displays are often viewed as disrespectful, or even as a form of desecration, by members of the originating culture. Cultural elements which may have deep meaning to the original culture may be reduced to “exotic” fashion or toys by those from the dominant culture. When this is done, the imitator, who does not experience that oppression is able to “play”, temporarily, an “exotic” other, without experiencing any of the daily discriminations faced by other cultures. Appropriation and the “fetishizing” of cultures, in fact, alienates those whose culture is being appropriated

(From Wikipedia)

Rhythms of Resistance takes its form of action and some aspects of its music from a Brazilian Black liberation movement, while not being part of that movement. Our selection of instruments is the same and our way of maestrating similar to real batucadas. Custard, Samba Reggae and Sheffield Samba Reggae are simplified versions of original Samba Reggae rhythms, Afoxé, Voodoo and Xangô are directly rooted in Afro-Brazilian religion. Angela Davis, Cochabamba, Crazy Monkey, Hafla, Menaiek, No Border Bossa, Ragga and possible others are based on styles of popular music from the Global South.

There is an ongoing debate in the RoR network about to what extent this is cultural appropriation, and what consequences to draw from that. Many bands have decided to stop calling themselves “Samba” or “Batucada”, but rather use alternative phrases like percussion or drumming. Some bands have decided to stop playing specific tunes.

Still it is important to acknowledge that our methods and music are inspired by Samba and Carnival and are using many elements from it.

Dance 6

Löyly & Hot > Mosquito > Murder > Sun & Baby & Windy

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Löyly right	Löyly right	Löyly right	Löyly right	Hot left	Hot left	Hot left	Hot left
2	Mosquito right	Mosquito right	Mosquito right	Mosquito right	Mosquito left	Mosquito left	Mosquito left	Mosquito left
3	Murder right	Murder right	Murder right	Murder right	Murder left	Murder left	Murder left	Murder left
4	Sun front left	Sun front right	Sun front right	Sun front right	Baby back	Baby back	Baby back	Baby back
	Sun front left	Sun front right	Sun front right	Sun front right	Windy back	Windy back	Windy back	Windy back

Löyly

Pour water onto the sauna with both of your hands while stepping sideways.

Hot

Wave some air towards your head while stepping sideways.

Mosquito

Both hands together fly up into the air like a mosquito, then clap in the air. Step sideways at the same time.

Murder

First touch your foot with your

hand behind your back. Then step to the side while pulling apart the prison bars.

Sun

Jump on one leg while waving the other foot and hand in the air.

Baby

Make a 360° turn while holding a baby in your arms.

Windy

Vertically rotate both your arms backwards twice.

Dance 5

Snowboots & Hips > Step & Kick > Tiger > Winding Plants

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Sn		Sn		Sn		J	
	Hi	Hi	Hi	Hi J	Hi	Hi	Hi	Hi J
2	Sn		Sn		Sn		J	
	Hi	Hi	Hi	Hi J	Hi	Hi	Hi	Hi J
3	S	S	Ki	S	S	S	Ki	S
	S	S	Ki	S	S	S	Ki	S
4	Ti		Ti		Ti		Ti	
	Ti		Ti		Ti		Ti	
5	Wir				Wil			
	Wir				Wil			

Snowboots + Hips

3 steps forward as if stumping through deep snow (half pace). Jump right on 4th step. Shake hips back and forth for 4 beats, jump left, shake hips for 4 beats, jump + turn 180° around. 3 snow steps backwards, jump, hips, jump, hips, jump. On last beat turn 180° around to face front again.

Step Kick

4 steps forward, kick forward on the 3rd step, then 4 steps backward, kick backward on the 7th step. Repeat.

Tiger (with claws)

Jump forward. Arms are stretched out front. hands form tiger claws and scratch.

Jump to the right with claws, turn and jump back with claws, jump to the left with claws (should have jumped once around you to all 4 sides with claws). Repeat once

Winding Plants

Start with elegantly crossing your arms in front of your right hip. Then wind your arms up like climbing plants, forming waves within 4 beats. When you reach the top, open hands to a bowl. While you are doing that, take 2 steps forward and 2 steps backward. Then repeat winding up on the left side. Once again right side and left side.

RoR Player

The RoR Player can be used on computers and smartphones to browse the tune sheets of all RoR tunes, listen to them, combine them in different ways, modify them, and even create own tunes and share them with others. It can be found at <https://player.rhythms-of-resistance.org/>. It works directly in the browser, and after being used for the first time it, it can also be opened without an internet connection. Use the “Add to Home screen” function on a smartphone to use it like an app.

The player has two modes, which can be selected on top of the screen. In “Listen” mode, you can listen and read a detailed description of each tune by selecting one from the list on the left (on mobile devices, click on the menu button on the top left first). By clicking on the pen symbol, you can see the notes of a tune or break while it is playing.


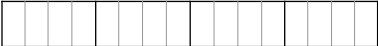
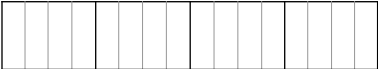
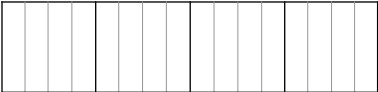
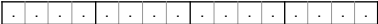


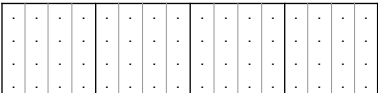

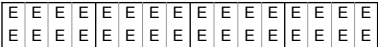


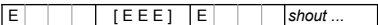
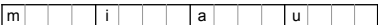
By clicking the dropdown with the Equalizer symbol, you can make specific instruments louder or quieter, adjust the playback speed, and add a whistle sound on the 1 or on each beat.

In “Compose” mode, you can modify tunes/breaks, compose your own ones, and listen to them in different combinations. You can find detailed instructions in the RoR Player user manual on: <https://player-docs.rhythms-of-resistance.org/>

RoR Tube

RoR Tube is a video sharing platform for the RoR network. It can be found on <https://tube.rhythms-of-resistance.org/>. You can find there and publish your own videos of playing tunes, the RoR dances, fixing drums, participating in actions and other creative ideas. RoR Tube is a good resource for seeing in action the things that the tune sheet can only describe in text.

General Breaks

Silence 4 fingers	1		4 Beats of Silence
Double Silence two hands show 4 fingers	1 2		8 Beats of Silence
Triple Silence like "Double Silence" one hand upside down	1 2 3		12 Beats of Silence
Quad Silence like "Double Silence" both hands upside down	1 2 3 4		16 Beats of Silence
Continue for One Bar draw a horizontal line in the air with one finger	1		Continue 4 Beats
Continue for Two Bars like "continue for one bar" with both hands	1 2		Continue 8 Beats
Continue for Three Bars like "continue for two bars" and then "continue for one bar" in the opposite direction	1 2 3		Continue 12 Beats
Continue for Four Bars like "continue for two bars" and then again in the opposite direction	1 2 3 4		Continue 16 Beats
Boom Break Show an explosion away from your body with both hands	1		
Eight Up both hands move up while fingers shaking	1 2		from soft to loud
Eight Down both hands move down while fingers shaking	1 2		from loud to soft
Karla Break rabbit ears OR finger pistol shooting up	1 2 3 4		from soft to loud
Call Break ... "oi": two arms crossing, with OK-sign ... "ua": two fists, knuckles hit each other			
Cat Break claws to left and right			from high to low sound

Dance 4

Lead Pipe > Puke > Shower > Swords

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	L				L			
	L				L		Go	
2	P				P			
	P				P			
3	G		T		G		T	
	G		T		G		T	
4	SWl			SWr			SWl	
		SWr			SWl			X

Lead Pipe

Hold your left arm to the front, the right to the back, palms up (as if you are carrying a big pipe). Move your right foot to the front and swing the pipe. Go back to your initial position (4 beats). At "Go" you throw the pipe away and twist around. Comment: After the move you stand a bit ahead of your initial position.

Puke

Hold your hand as if you'd catch a big ball in front of your face. [1] Jump with your right leg to the front. Twist your hands 360° to the front. (You end with your palms up, as if you'd carry a pile of paper). Move your body down. [2] Step back onto you left leg. Your hands to the same move as at beat 1 but reverse.

(You end this movement at beat 3.) [3] Jump with your right leg back. Your body seems to fall back. [4] Step to the front onto your left leg again.

Swords

[1] Move one leg in front of the other leg. Move the corresponding arm down (it's a sword). The other arm is bowed. [2] Step on the other leg. Bow the stretched out arm. Stech out the other down. [3] Step on the other leg (you're now back on the initial position.) Bow the stretched out arm. Stretch out the other. [4] Here another swords-move starts, or in case of "X" you just step on the other leg. Comment: 16 beats are good for this move.

Dance 3

Shower > Afro Pump > Wheels > Seeds & Sun

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	G		T		G		T	
2	APr		API		APr		API	
3	Wr			X	WI			X
4	Se	Se	Se	Se	Su	Su	Su	Su
	Se	Se	Se	Se	Su	Su	Su	

Get the water

Do a long step with your right leg to the front. Move your body down. Take bucket of water. Straighten yourself again and **Take a Shower.** (together 4 beats)

Afro Pump

Move one foot up and down (pump). Move your hands beside your knees.

Wheels

Move both arms in circles to a side. (Hold your hands down first and move them to the side.) [4] Move your hands fitfully to you chest. (X)

Seeds

Cross with your right foot to the left. Step from one foot to the other (each beat two steps). Move your hands down and shake them (you're sowing seeds).

Sun

Cross with your left foot to the right. Step from one foot to the other. Move your hands to the top and shake them (you're adoring the sun).

Wolf Break

wolf's ears and teeth

1	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	A		S
2	S	S	A		S	S	S	A		
3	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	A		
4	E	E	E	E	E	E	a	u	-	-

< a-u = like a howling wolf

Democracy Break

shout with your hands forming a funnel

1	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
2	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
3	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
4	This	is	what	demo	cracy	looks	like				
5	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
6	This	is	what	demo	cracy	looks	like				
7	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
8	This	is	what	demo	cracy	looks	like				
9	This	is	what	demo	cracy	looks	like				
10	This	is	what	demo	cracy	looks	like				
11	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

from soft to loud

from soft to loud

Laughing Break

fingers move up
corners of your mouth

ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	--

laughter

from high to low sound

Star Wars Break

Move flat hand from top to bottom of face

1	ms		ms		ms		ls		hs
2	ms		ls		hs	ms			

Progressive Break

5 fingers and other
hand grabbing thumb

(can be inverted by showing the sign upside down)

1	E		E		E		E		E		E
2	E		E		E		E		E		E
3	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

Progressive Karla

rabbit ears OR finger pistol,
the other hand is grabbing the thumb

1	E		E		E		E		E		E
2	E		E		E		E		E		E
3	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
4	E		E		E		E		E		E

Clave

Point your thumb and index finger up as if indicating a distance of about 10 cm between them

E		E		E		E		E		E	
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--

Clave inverted

Like "Clave", but with the two fingers pointing down

	E		E			E		E		E	
--	---	--	---	--	--	---	--	---	--	---	--

Yala Break

all fingertips of one hand gather and shake wrist

E		E			E		E		E		
---	--	---	--	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	--

Dance Break

Show a > with your index+middle finger and move it horizontally in front of your eyes.

E-	very	bo	-	dy	dance	now	
----	------	----	---	----	-------	-----	--

Everybody sings

After the break, everyone continues to play walking around dancing randomly for a while.

Hard Core Break

Both hands in the air, with index and pinky fingers pointing up.

1	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	E	E
	E	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	E	E
	E	I	I	I	E	E	E	E	E	E
2-4	E	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	E	E
	E	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	E	E
	E	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	E	E
	E	e	e	e	E	E	E	E	E	E

3 x from soft to loud

I = Agogô plays low e = everyone play softly
2nd time: everyone except Surdos
4th time: Agogô plays high

4 times from soft to loud

Hold one arm vertically in front of your body and move the other up along the arm

Tamborim Stroke

Make a circle with your index finger and thumb, like "OK"

Play another instrument

Hold both hands in front of your face, and wave your arms to cross each other

Switch Call/Response

Point with both index fingers forward and wave your arms to cross each other.

In a loop

Hold one arm vertically in front of your body and make a wave over it with the other hand

Storming Break

show the arm as a measure with the other hand on elbow don't make a fist

Alerting / Magic Wand Break

show your flat hand and hit it with stick

Chaos Break

Point with index finger at temple

Again

Hit with flat hand on forehead

Improvisation

Point at your nose and at the sambista who can play freely

When any break or sequence of breaks is shown followed by this sign, it should be played 4 times, starting very quietly and getting louder each time.

Everyone plays the line of the tamborim once

Show this sign followed by the sign of an instrument to make everyone play the line of that instrument.

Calling and responding instruments switch roles. Only works in Call+Response breaks, for example Wolf Break or Funk Break 1.

When any break or sequence of breaks is shown followed by this sign, it should be repeated continuously until the maestra instructs to play something else.

chosen instrument section plays sixteenths with volume indicated by maestra if you can't stand it anymore: scream

Stop the Surdos. Give a sign for when the Surdos should hit once, by hitting the stick on the hand in the air. It's easier to follow if you paint a small loop in the air with your stick, just before hitting. Start with just one hit every four beats, then add more.

Everyone plays something chaotic, getting louder and louder. No Counting in!

Repeat the last break (combination)

Show all others what they should do in the meantime, so the length of the impro part is defined

Notation

Call-Response

- E Everybody
- A All others
- S Surdos
- ls Low Surdo
- ms Mid Surdo
- hs High Surdo
- R Repinique
- sn Snare
- T Tamborim

Strokes

- x hit the skin with a stick
- . hit the skin softly with a stick
- hd hit the skin with your hand
- sil silent stroke: hit the skin with a stick, while the other hand rests on the skin
- 0 put your hand on the skin to dampen the sound
- fl flare: multiple hit with rebounding stick
- ri hit the rim with a stick
- w hit the skin with a whippy stick (Tamborim stick), if not available hit the rim
- h Agogô: high bell
- l Agogô: low bell

Dance 2

Push to sides > Star > Jump & Aeroplane > Queen

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Sr		Sr		Sl		Sl	
	Pr		Pr		Pl		Pl	
2	St				St			
	St				St			
3	J & Ar				J & Al			
	J & Ar				J & Al			
4	Qr				Ql			
	Qr				Ql			

Step

Step to a side. (Every second beat a step)

Push

Step to a side, every second beat a step. Move both hands to the side, as if you'd give sth. a push.

Star

[1] Move your right leg to the front, across you left leg. Move your right arm to the upper right. [2] Move your left leg on the right side of your other leg (cross in the front). Move your left arm to the upper left. [3] Move your right leg behind your left leg. (initial point, you don't have to cross) Move both arms

to the lower right. [4] Move your left leg to the left side of your other. (initial point). Move both arms to the lower left. Comment: Your feet draw a square.

Jump

Jump with both feet.

Aeroplane

See Dance 1

Queen

Hold your arms streched out to both sides. [1] Touch with one streched out leg the ground in front of you. (Don't step) [2] Now step with that leg and walk side- wards. (3 steps, cross behind the leg.)

R = call by Repinique

Bhaṅgrā

this tune is a 6/8

tune sign: folded hands, like praying

Groove

Groove		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
All Surdos	1	x			x	x			x
	2	x		x	x			x	x
Repinique	1	x	s	s	s	x	s	x	s
	2	x	s	s	s	x	s	x	s
Snare	1	r	.	.	.	r	.	.	.
Tamborim		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Agogô		h	h	l	l				
Shaker		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

s = soft flare

Break 1

1	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	A		S	S	S
2	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	A		S	S	S
3	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	A		S	S	S
4	S		S	S	S							sn	sn	sn

do	as	/	say,	you	old	fool,	dam	/	say
----	----	---	------	-----	-----	-------	-----	---	-----

tune sign : open and close the beak of a bird with your hands

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

[illegible]

fl	hd	x	fl	hd	x	fl	hd
fl	hd	x	fl	hd	x	fl	hd

.	.
.	.
.	.
X	X
X	X
X	X
.	.
.	.
.	.
X	X
X	X
X	X
.	.
.	.
.	.
X	X
.	.
.	.
.	.
X	X
.	.
.	.
.	.
X	X

	X
	X
	X
	X

[illegible]

	X	
X	X	
	X	
X	X	
	X	
X	X	
	X	
X	X	

1-3	fl	hd	ri	hd	ri		S		A		.
4	E			E			E		E		E
4	.	sn	sn	sn	.	.	sn	sn	sn	sn	.

	R	R	R	R	A
--	---	---	---	---	---

[illegible][illegible]

	E	E	E	E		E	E	E	E	1
--	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---

1	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

R = Repinique

7	S	A	S	A	S	eh
8	S	A	S	A	S	eh

Angela Davis

tune sign: pull two prison bars apart in front of your face

Groove

	1	2	3	4
Low Surdo	x	x	w	w
Mid Surdo	x	x	x	x
High Surdo				x
Repinique	fl	fl	fl	x
Snare	.	.	.	.
Tamborim	x	x	x	x
Agogô		l	h	h

w = whippy stick (or rim)

Break 1

1	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Break 2

1	S	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	S
2	S	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	S
3	S	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	E
4	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

Break 3

snare continues playing through the break!

1	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
2	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
3	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
4	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
5	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

repeat until cut

Xangô

tune sign : rain trickling down, with 10 fingers

Groove

	1	2	3	4
Low Surdo	sil	x	x	x
Mid Surdo	x	x		
High Surdo				x
Repinique	x	x	x	x
if too hard play tamb. Part				
Snare	x	.	.	.
Tamborim	1	x	x	x
	2	x	x	x
Agogô	l	h	l	h

Intro

building a tower with fists
on top of each other,
upwards

Everyone hits the rims

ri	ri	ri	ri	ri	ri	ri	ri	ri	ri
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

repeat until cut

Surdo Part of Intro

flat hand on head

1	S							S	S	S
2	S							S	S	S
3	S						S	S	S	S
4	S							(S)		

not before before Boum Shakala Break repeat

can be remembered by:
start: 1 – 4 – 3 – 5
then: 2 – 4 – 3 – 5 :||

Boum Shakala Break

Crossed fingers

1	S	A	A	A	S	A	A	A	S	A
2	S	A	A	A	S	A	A	A	S	A
3	S	A	A	A	S	A	A	A	S	A
4	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	sn	hs	hs

Break 2

1	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2	S	S	S	S	S	A	A	A	S	S
3	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
4	S	S	S	S	S	A	A	A	S	S
5	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
6	S	S	S	S	S	A	A	A	hs	hs

Voodoo

tune sign : aureole – make a circle around head with your index finger down

Groove

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo		x		x		x	x	
Mid+High Surdo	1 sil		x		sil	sil	sil	0
Snare	x	.	x	.	x	.	x	.
Repinique	x		x		x		x	
Tamborim	x	x		x	x			
Agogô	h	h	l	l	h	l	h	l

Scissor Break

Signed like scissors

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
1	2	3	4	in	my	un-	derpant	s

Cochabamba

tune sign: drink from a cup formed with one hand

Groove

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low+Mid surdo	x			0				
High surdo		0		0		0		0
Repinique		x			x		x	
Snare/Shakers	.	.	x	.	.	.	.	.
Tamborim		x		x		x		x
Agogô	h	h	l	l	h	h	l	l

. = clicking bells together

Make sure the off beat (2 and 4) is always very clear. The snares have to exaggerate this off beat
Make sure the high and low surdos fit together well; playing the offbeat with the left hand makes this easier.

Break 1 (Iron Lion Zion Break)

x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Everyone together ... start soft and go louder!
<

No Bra Break pulling off a bra

c	c		c	c		c	c	A
c	c		c	c		c	c	A
c	c		c	c		c	c	A

c = call by maestro (on repinique or snare)
A = All others answer

Cross Kicks for surdos

sign 'X' with the arms, waving towards the sky

							0	
x	x						0	

high surdo
low surdo

Crazy Monkey

sign: scratch your head and your armpit at the same time like a monkey

Groove

Groove	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo	x		x		x		x	x
Mid Surdo		x	x	x		(x)	x	x
High Surdo		x	x	x		x	x	x
Repinique	fl	hd	x	hd	fl	hd	x	x
Snare	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Tamborim		x	x		x	x	x	(x)
Agogô	l	h	h	h	l	h	l	[h h h]
altrnative		h		h		h	h	
Shaker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

(x) = variations [] = triplet

Break 1

A = all others except agogó
E = everyone
ms = Mid Surdo

[illegible]

Van Harte pardon!

tune sign: heart formed with your hands

Groove

Groove	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low+Mid Surdo	0		x		0		x	x
High Surdo	sil	x		x	sil	x	sil	x
Snare 1 / Repinique	.	x	.	x	.	x	.	x
Snare 2 / Shakers	x	.	x	.	x	.	x	.
Tamborim		x		x		x		x
Agogô	h	l	l	h	l	l	h	h

Break 1

g	.	.	r	.	.	o	.	.	o	.	.	v	.	e	.	E	E	E	E	E	E							hey!		
Everybody sings this																													shout:	

Silence Break

the sign is 4 fingers up

												Is	Is
												ag	ag

ls = low surdo
ag = agogô

Break 2

Low Surdo	x		sil									x		x		sil												x
High Surdo	x		sil											x		sil												
Snare / Repinique	x	.	.	x	.	.	x	x	x	x	.	x	x	.	x	.	.	x	.	.	x	x	.	x	x	.	.	.
Tamborim							x	x	x	x		x	x		x						x	x	.	x	x	.	.	.
Agogô							h	h	h	h		o	h		h						o	o	.	o	o	.	h	o

repeated on and on until maestra calls off:

together

x	x	sil								x	x	sil		sil	sil	sil	sil	sil	x	x	
x	x	sil								x	x	sil		sil	sil	sil	sil	sil	x	x	
x	.	x	.	.	x	(x)	x	x	.	x	.	x	.	x	x	x	x	x	x	.	.
					x	(x)	x	x	.	x	x	.	.	x	x	x	x	x	x	.	.
					h	(h)	h	h	.	o	h	.	.	o	o	o	h	o			

back into the groove

back into the groove

Cross Break – Surdos

sign 'x' with the ams

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo	x							
High Surdo	x	sil			x	sil		x

repeated until cut

Cross Eight Break – Surdos

sign 'x' with arms showing
Eight Up

[illegible]

from soft to loud ...

Wolf

tune sign: drawing big “V” in the air with both hands (from up to down)

Groove

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Mid Surdo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
High Surdo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Repinique	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Snare	fl	.	.	.	fl	.	.	.
Tamborim	1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Agogô	2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Shaker	l	l	l	h	l	l	h	h

Pat 1 (2)

Low Surdo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Mid Surdo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
High Surdo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

(x) = added in pat 2

Break 1

1	sn	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
2	sn	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

Break 2

1	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	A
2	S	S	A	S	S	S	E	Oil

Oil = Everybody shouts “Oi”

Break 2

1	.	.	sn	.	sn	E	E	.	.
2	.	.	sn	.	sn	E	E	.	.
3	.	.	E	.	E	.	.	E	E
4	.	.	sn	.	sn	E	E	ms	ms

sn = snare
.
= dead note on snare
ms = Mid Surdo

Break 3

1	S	S	A	S	S	A
2	E	E	E	E	ms	ms
	h	l	l	l	(h)	(h)

ms = Mid Surdo

Bongo Break 1

play a bongo with one hand

S	A	S	A	S	A	S	A	S	A
l	h	l	h	l	h	l	h	l	h

play as loop

Bongo Break 2

play a bongo with two hands

S	A	S	A	S	A	S	A	S	A
l	h	l	h	l	h	l	h	l	h

play as loop

Monkey Break

like tune sign

[UUU]	[AAA]
-------	-------

Shout like a monkey

alternative: different rhythm or just chaotic voices

Low Surdo	1	0			x			0			x		x
Mid Surdo		x			0			x			0		
High Surdo		x	x		0			x	x		x	0	
Repinique			x	x			x	x		x	x		x
Snare		x	.	x	.	x	.	.	x	.	x	.	.
Tamborim		x		x		x	x		x		x		x
Agogô		h		h		l	l		h		h		l

1	S		S		S	S		A		A		A		A	A
2	S		S		S	S		A		A		A		A	A
3	S		S		S	S		A		A		A		A	A
4	E		E		E	E		E		E		E		E	E

1	T		T		T	T		A		A		A		A	A	
2	T		T		T	T		A		A		A		A	A	
3	T		T		T	T		A		A		A		A	A	
4	E		E		E	E		E		E		E		E	E	

1-7	A																A	
2-8	A																	
8	sn	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn	sn	sn	sn	sn	sn

1	sn	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn		A	
2	A		sn	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn		A	
3	A		sn		sn		A		A		sn		sn		A	
4	A		sn		A		sn		A		sn		A		sn	

	ʌ	ʌ	ʌ	ʌ	ʌ	ʌ	ʌ
1	I've	got	cus	tard	in	my	und-erpants
2	I've	got	cus	tard	in	my	und-erpants
3	I've	got	cus	tard	in	my	und-erpants
4	We've	got	cus	tard	in	our	und-erpants

Walc(z)

this tune is a 3/4

Groove

Low Surdo
Mid+High Surdo

Repinique

Snare

Tamborim

Agogô

Shaker

Break 1

Break 2

No Bra Break

1 2

Break 3

1 2

Break 5

Cut-throat Break

Sign like cutting your throat with a finger

Cut-throat Break

Fast

tune sign : draw a triangle in the air with one hand

[illegible]

Tequila

tune sign: Shake salt onto your hand

Groove

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo	x	0	(0) (0)	x	0	(0) (0)	x	0
Mid Surdo	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
High Surdo								
Repinique				hd	x			
Snare	.	.	.	x	.	x	.	.
Tamborim		x		x		x		
Agogó	h	h	l	h	l	h	l	h

(0) = Can be played optionally to make the rhythm easier to understand
Low Surdo starts with an upbeat before the 1

Break 1

Shake salt on number 1

1	l	l	l	l	l	l	h		Tequila!	(ls)
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	----------	------

Break 2

1	hs	.	.	.	ms				ls	ms	hs	.	.	.	.	ms			ls	ms	ms
	hs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2	hs	.	.	.	ms																
																

. = Shaker

Surdos start with 3 upbeats before the 1

No Bra Break

pulling off a bra

1-3	R	R	A	A	R	R	R	A	A
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Repeat 3 times

R = call by Repinique

Drum&Bass

tune sign: with one hand in your ear lift the other and move it front and back

Groove

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo	x			x				
Mid Surdo			x	x			x	
High Surdo						x		
Repinique								
Snare	.	.	x	.	.	.	.	.
Tamborim		x						
Agogó	l	h	l	h	l	h	l	h

Dance Break

1 E- very bo - dy dance now
Show a > with your index+middle finger and move it horizontally in front of your eyes.

Everybody sings and starts dancing

Break 2

1	S	A	S	S	A	S	A	S	A
2	S	A	S	S	A	x	x	x	x

x = hits on snare and repi

Break 3

1	E				E			E	
2	E				E			E	
3	E				E			E	

R = hit on repi
Ri = repi hit on rim
sn = snare

Hip-Hop Break

hit your chest

1	S		S	A		S	A		S		S		A		S		Ri		S
2	S		S	A		S	S	A	S		R	Ri	S		R		R		Ri
3	S		S	A		S	S	A	S		S	A		S		S		A	
4	S		S	A		S	S	A	S		sn			sn		sn		S	

Drunken Sailor

tune sign: build an eyepatch with one hand in front of your eye

Groove

Groove	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mid Surdo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
High Surdo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Repinique	fl	x	x	x	fl	x	x	x
Snare	x	x	x	.	.	x	.	.
Tamborim	x	x	x	x	x	.	x	x
Agogô	l	l	l	h	l	h	l	h

Break 1

E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Break 2

S	A	S	A	S	A	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

White Shark

simulating

a shark fin

[illegible]

The Sirens of Titan

this tune is a 6/8

tune sign: folded hands, like praying

Groove

Groove		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Surdos	1	ls	ls	hs	hs	ms	ms	ls	ls
	2	ms	ms	ls	ls	hs	hs	ls	ls
Repinique		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Snare		x	.	x	.	x	.	x	x
Tamborim	1	x	x			x	x		
	2	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Agogô		l	l	h	l	l	h	h	h
		l	l	l	l	l	l	h	l
Shaker		x	.	x	.	.	x	x	x

Rented a Tent Break (showing both sides of a tent from up to down)

(showing both sides of a tent from up to down)

[illegible]

Groove

Low Surdo

Mid Surdo

High Surdo

Repinique

Snare

Tamborim

Agogô

No Bra Break

Intro

Break 1

Break 2

Break 3

Whistle Break

Point to whistle

Outro

*Fist like “Stop playing”,
with thumb sticking out*

E	E	E	E	E	RR	R	R	R	E	E
E	then stop playing									

Funk

tune sign: glasses on your eyes

Groove

All Surdos

Repinique

Snare

Tamborim

Agogô

Break 1

Break 2

Call Break

... "oi": two arms crossing, with OK-sign
... "ua": two fists, knuckles hit each other

Hafia

Sign: spread arms and shake your shoulders and hips

Groove

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Surdo	x		x	x	x		x	x
Mid Surdo		x				x		
High Surdo								
Repinique	x		x	ri	x	ri	x	ri
Snare	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
easier	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Tamborim	x		x	x	x		x	
Agogô	l		l	h	h		l	h

Yala Break

all fingertips of one hand gather and shake wrist

E	E		E	E				
---	---	--	---	---	--	--	--	--

Kick Back 1

repeat until cut
ag = Agogô, switch low and high every two bars

S	A	ag	ag	ag	ag	A	ag	ag
---	---	----	----	----	----	---	----	----

Kick Back 2

S		A		A	S	A	A	A
---	--	---	--	---	---	---	---	---

. = Snare playing silent note

Break 3

sn	sn	sn	sn	A				
----	----	----	----	---	--	--	--	--

Hook Break

two fingers
hooked together

1	S	S	A	A	A	S	A	A
2	S	A	A	S	A	S	S	A

Break 3

fl = flare on repinique
R = hit on repinique

T+h = Tamborin + high agogô bell

SOS Break

signed by waving
the palms diagonal
across one shoulder

Knock on the door Break

knock with the knuckles of your
right hand on your flat left hand

last run: repis plays this →

Dancing Break

sign by showing the dance:
arms down to the right, and
to the left – then arms up to
the right, and left .. and go!
(start down right)

snare continues playing this trough the break

1	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	.	.
2	S				S	S			S	S			S	S		
3	A			A			A				A			S		
4	S			S	S		S		S	S			S	S		
5	A			A			A				A					
6	S			S	S		S		S	fl	R		R			
7	S			S	S		S		S	fl	R		R			
8	S			S			S						hs	hs	hs	hs

hs = high surdo picks up

1	S		A	A		A	A		S		A		A			
2	S		A	A		A	A		S		A		A			
3	S		A	A		A	A		S		A		A			
4	S		A	A		A	A		S		A		A		ls	

ls = low surdo picks up

after which the repinique picks up this rhythm and plays in the tune:

		x	x		x	x			x	x						
--	--	---	---	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

... until next time the SOS break is played. Then it goes back to:

		x	x			x	x			x	x			x	x	
--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	--

snare continues playing this or the rhythm of Bra Break

1	E				sn	sn	.	.	sn	sn	.	.	sn	sn	[E E E]	sn
2	E				sn	sn	.	.	sn	sn	.	.	sn	sn	.	sn
3	E			E				E				E		E		sn
4	E			sn	sn	.	.	sn	sn	.	.	sn	sn	.	.	sn
	R		R		R	R		R		R		R		R	R	

repeat until cut

The players wo don't play dance (see left)

1-7	S			S				S	S				S			
2-6	A			A				A	A				A			
8	A			A				A	A				A		ls	

ls = low surdo picks up

Groove

Low Surdo
Mid Surdo
High Surdo

	1			2			3			4		
1	0			x			0			x		x
	x			0			x			0		
	0					x	0			x	x	x
			x	x					x	x		
					x	x					x	x
	x	.	.	x	.	.	.	.	x	.	.	x
	x			x					x		x	
	l		h	h		l	l	h		h	h	l

R = hit on repinique
fl = flare on repinique
T = Tamborim

1	fl		R	R		R	R		R		A		A			
2	fl		R	R		R	R		R		A		A			
3	fl		R	R		R	R		R		A		A			
4	T			T			T				T		T			
5	T			T			T				T		T			
6	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	.
	T			T			T				T		T			
	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	.
7	T			T			T				T		T		ls	
	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	.

Clave

1	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---

CALL by repi

1	x	x		x	x		x	x	x		x	x				
2	A		A		A	A		A	A							
3	x	x		x	x		x	x		x		x	x			
4	A			A			A		x							
5	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.
6	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn			A	A			
7	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.
8	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn			A	A			
9	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.
10	sn	.	.	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn			A	A			
11	sn			sn			sn				sn		hs	hs	hs	hs

Break 2

CALL by repi															
1	x			x			x			x		x+A	A	A	A
2	x			x			x			x		x+A	A	A	A
3	x			x			x			x		x+A	A	A	A
4	x			x			x			x		x+A	A	A	A

Hedgehog

tune sign: spiky fingers on the head

Groove

[illegible]

others continue playing

Break 1

call something else here

Hedgehog Call

Hedgehog Tune sign

Groove

All Surdos

	1			2			3			4					
1-3	x			0	x	x				0					
4	x			0	x	x		x	x	x		x			
	x		x	x		x		x	x	x		x			
	x	x	.	.	.
1				x						x					
2				x		x		x	x	x					
1	l		l	h	l	l		l	h	l					

rabbit ears OR finger
pistol shooting up

[illegible]

Break 2

1	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
2	E				E			E				E				
3	S		S		A		S		S		A	A	A	A		
4	S		S		A		S		S		A	A	A	A		

Break 2 inverted
*sign with two fingers
pointing down
instead of up*

[illegible]

Küsel Break
hands twist heel

S	S	S	S	S	S		S	A	A	A	A	A	.
sn	.	sn sn	.	sn	sn	.	.	sn	.	sn	.	sn	.

all players turn around 360° while playing the break

all players turn around 360° while playing the break

Skipping Agogô

[illegible]

I like to move it
curling hands
up and down

[illegible][illegible]

1	2
Eye of the tiger	claws left and right

Surdos (High, Middle, Low), Snare														
hs					hs					hs				
.	
					hs						hs	ms	hs	
					hs						Is	Agogó beating fast between both bells...		
											ms	snare stops here		

Surdos (High, Middle, Low), Snare

Agogô beating fast between both bells...

snare stops here

tune sign: put three fingers on your other upper arm (like covering a police badge)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

[illegible]

Agogô

E	E	E	E	E	E
E	E	E	E	E	E

[illegible]

Groove

All Surdos

Repinique

Snare

Tamborim

Agogô

Shaker

No Bra Break

Intro

Break 1

Break 2

1-4

5-14

6-15

7-16

1-4

1			2			3			4		
x			w	x	w	x		w	x		w
x	.	.	x	.	x	.	x	x	.	.	x
x	.	.	x	.	x	.	.	x	.	.	x
	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
	x		x	x	x	x		x	x		
l			h	h	l	h		l	l		h
x	x		x	x		x	x		x		x

w = whippy stick

1-4

5-14

6-15

7-16

R	R		R			A	A		A	A				
R	.	.	R	.	.	R	.	.	R	.	.	[RRRRRR]		
R				A		A			A			A	A	A
				A		A						A		

× 4

× 4

Last beat overlaps with first Repi beat

Keep playing groove during first 2 beats

Pr		pr		pr		E	E		E	E		
----	--	----	--	----	--	---	---	--	---	---	--	--

Pr = long whistle pr = short whistle

S		S		S		S		A	A		A	A	
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	---	--	---	---	--

repeat 4 times

Ragga

tune sign: fists together, thumbs to the left and to the right

Groove

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Low Surdo	0	X	0	X	0	X	0	X
Mid Surdo	0	X	X	X	0	X	(X)	X
High Surdo							(X)	(X)
Repinique								
an additional variation								
Snare								
Tamborim								
Agogô								

Kick Back I

thumb back over shoulder

S		S		A		S		S		A		S		S		A
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---

repeat until counting in for Kick Back II

Kick Back II

like Kick Back I,
but with two thumbs

S	A	S		S	A	S		S	A	S		S	A	S		S	A
h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h

repeat until cut with one of the breaks

Break 1

1	S	A	S	A	S		1	2	3	4

this break is only two counts
long – afterwards continue
normally with the first beat

Break 2

1	E						E	E	E	
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	---	---	---	--

Break 3

1	S		S		S	A	A		A	
---	---	--	---	--	---	---	---	--	---	--

Zorro-Break

sign 'Z' in the air

S						S					S				S		S
---	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	---	--	---

others continue playing

repeat until cut with one of the breaks

Double Break

Make a T with both hands

x		0	x	x		0	x	x		0	x
	0	0	x			0		x		x	
x	0	0		x	0	0		x		x	
l	h	h	l	l	l	h	l	l	l	l	h

Like the groove, but double speed.
Everyone else continues playing normally.

Kick Back 1

x		x		x		x		x		x	
l	h	h	l	h	h	l	h				
	x					x				[x x x]	

repeat until cut

Mozambique Break

Point both index fingers away from mouth (like bug antennas)

ri		sl		ri	ri	hd		sl		ri	ri	hd		ri
----	--	----	--	----	----	----	--	----	--	----	----	----	--	----

sl = slap with thumb (by rotating the hand)

tune sign: fists before breast, open hands and arms

1 2 3 4

		.		
x		.	x	l
		.		
	x	x	x	h
x		.	x	l
		.		
		x		
x		x	x	l
		.		
x		.	x	l
x		.		
	x	x	x	h
x		.	x	l
		.		
	x	.		
x	x	.	x	l

.	.	x	l
.	.		
x	x	x	h
.	.	x	l
.	.		
	x		
	x	x	l
.	.		
.	.	x	l
.	.		
x	x	x	h
.	.	x	l
.	.		
x	.		
x	.	x	l

.	.	x	l
.	.	.	.
x	x	x	h
.	.	x	l
.	.	.	.
x	.	.	.
x	x	x	l
.	.	.	.
.	.	x	l
.	.	.	.
x	x	x	h
.	.	x	l
.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.
.	x	.	l

x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
l	h	l	l	l	h	l	l

[illegible][illegible]

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

[illegible]

Groove

Repinique

Tamborim

Agogô

Funky gibbon

Upside down
'3 creature'

Monkey Break

One hand in armpit

Break 2

Speaking Break

tune sign: monkey, both hands in armpits

1				2				3				4			
x		x	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x
								x		x	x	x	x	x	x
x		ri	ri	x		ri	ri		ri	ri	ri	x		ri	
.	.	x	x	.	.	x	x	.	.	x	x	.	.	x	x
		x	x		x	x				x	x		x	x	
l	h			l		h	h	l				h		l	l

1
2
3
4
1-4
1-4

S				S				S	S		S	
S	S			S				S			S	
S									S	S		
S											S	
.	.	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	.	.	sn	.	.
		ri				ri				ri		

Repeat until cut

ri = Everyone else hits the rim

00		E	E		E	E		00		E	E		E	E	
----	--	---	---	--	---	---	--	----	--	---	---	--	---	---	--

oo = Shout Ook!				

S		A	A	S		A	A		A	A	A	S		A
---	--	---	---	---	--	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	--	---

[illegible]

Make monkey noises