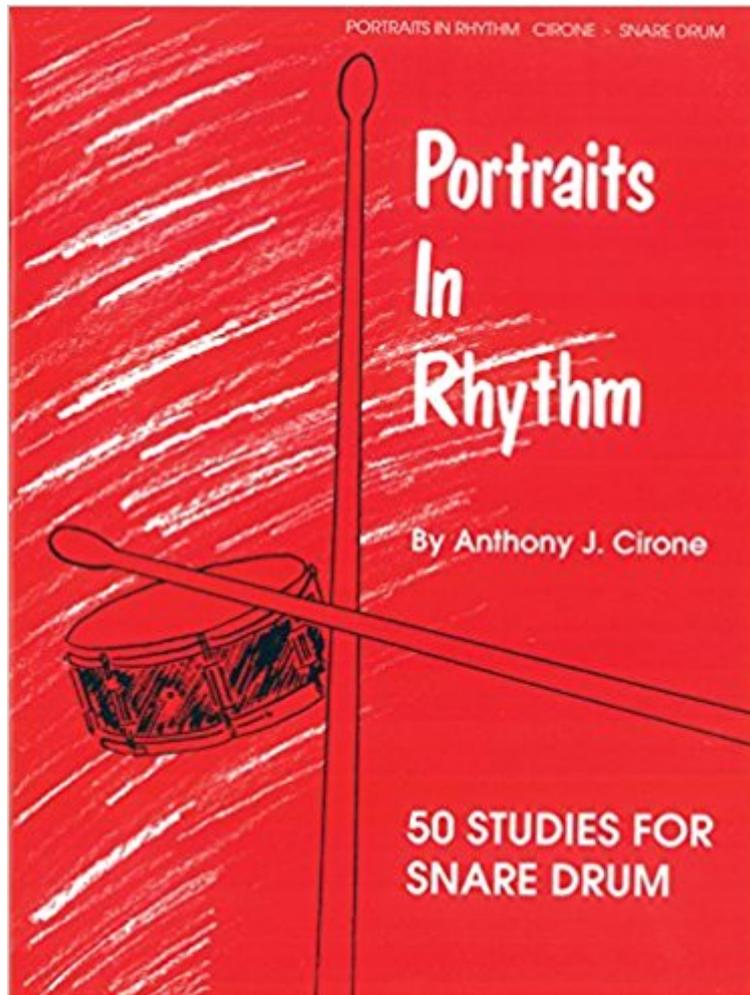


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# Portraits In Rhythm: 50 Studies For Snare Drum



## Synopsis

One of the classic snare drum books in print today! This publication presents the reader with challenging and stimulating material for the intermediate and advanced percussion student. Contains 50 musical solos and brief performance notes.

## Book Information

Paperback: 56 pages

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Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #26,382 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Percussion](#) #50 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Techniques](#) #308 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Instruction & Study](#)

## Customer Reviews

This book contains 50 solos that each work a different aspect of playing. One must pay special attention to note length and placement. It works timing and different feels of classical music. This pieces are meant to be played as orchestral pieces, not marching. Make sure all rolls are buzz and pay attention to if they are tied to a downbeat or not. It is an excellent book to work on every aspect of snare playing. Try to play the pieces for someone with musical knowledge so they can tell you if your interpretation of the solos are correct.

A .J .Cirone's Portraits in Rhythm contains 50 very musical snare drum etudes, each designed to improve the reading, playing and interpretation skills of the advanced drummer. They all contain challenges designed to advance the musician who desires to use practice time to actually improve her playing.I advise any drummer who wishes to acquire a high level of reading ability to encounter this useful book with a competent teacher. Since without excellent reading chops and expert guidance most people will not get beyond the second page.I use this book for my students who have mastered the concepts found in the Podemski book. They have all been challenged by

Popraits, and they have all benefited by its use. Cirone has also published study books using the same rhythm notation in Portraits for tympani, keyboards, multi percussion, and drum set. Many of my students have successfully used these etudes as audition solos. It is quite impressive to be able to demonstrate reading, playing and interpretation skills on different instruments, using the same rhythmic notation. Highly recommended.

I first started working out of this book in high school (about 8 years ago), and its usefulness and challenge still hasn't worn off. At the time I had 2 private instructors: one for jazz/set and one for orchestral percussion. Surprisingly enough, the jazz teacher was the guy that had me get this book, though both had me working out of it eventually. (If anyone's wondering why a jazz teacher thought I needed this book to play set: the lessons became about developing a feel for complex rhythms and getting comfortable in "odd" meters. I do feel it helped me once I developed the syncopation to apply some more complex rhythms to my playing.) For the beginner to intermediate player, the rhythms themselves will provide a challenge, but if you have the patience to work through it -- and a good metronome -- it will pay off in your playing. For the more advanced player, this book is fantastic for developing/practicing your ability to sight read at a high level. The only thing I really didn't like about the book was the lack of steady progression between exercises. Some are more or less difficult than others, but they're not arranged in any kind of format based on such, as most instructional books are. Regardless of that, I think this book should be in every percussionist's library.

Any percussionist looking to improve their sight reading skills should own this book. The notation is clear and printed nicely, the paper is of a high quality overall a wonderful method book. There some challenging parts of course but that's to be expected with a Cirone book. Portraits in Rhythm should be in any serious drummers inventory. Larry Salzman [...]

This is an excellent beginning snare drum book. The solos are just challenging enough to keep a younger player well up on their toes to try and learn them. The difficulty varies, and not chronologically, so going through the book in order may be a problem unless a more experienced player is using it for sight reading purposes. Overall great book, a must have for young snare drummer, both concert and rudimental.

PROS: 50 challenging snare drum solos  
Great range of solo types  
Each solo can always be improved

(dynamics, accents, etc.)CONS:They have no specific order (i.e. difficulty), so you have to jump around a bit

But I prefer Modern School for Snare Drum by Morris Goldenberg .I was taught by Jack van Geem of the SF Symphony and this had more relevance in learning orchestral snare drumming.

This book was purchased for my daughter. She was delighted to receive and begin using it. My daughter is very happy and with the contents of this book.

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