

TIMPANI CLINIC – MONTANA PAS DAY OF PERCUSSION

April 20, 2012 – MSU-Billings

Mechanics

- Machine vs. Musical Instrument
- Lubrication points, bearing edge (spray vs. Teflon tape)

Timpani Sizes and Ranges

- Effect on pedal mechanism / slippage
- Head tension
- Choices in performing literature

Tuning

- Regular collar, extended collar
- Head sizes, Ludwig numbering, Remo, Evans
- Head size chart
- Head mounting, seating
- Head clearing (tempering, balancing)

“In tuning timpani, the accuracy will depend ever so much on how absolutely clear the head is tuned at every spot. There must positively be no falseness and this is one of the most difficult phases of timpani playing to master.” - Cloyd Duff

- o TAP Gauge
- o Drum Dial
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- Ear training, pitch matching, tuning fork, pitch pipe
- Finger tap vs. Mallet tap
- Pedal up to note needed vs. down

Playing Spots

- Primary Channel, Secondary and Tertiary Areas
- Location on head, relation to pedals

Playing Techniques

- Grip (French, German, American)
- Fulcrum point, manipulation
- Natural Rebound, Lift, Touch, Finesse

Mallet Selection

- Basic, High School, College / Advanced

Moving Instruments

- frame instead of head / collar
- head covers, drop covers, cases / trunks

Other

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