

#### **NOVEMBER 2023**

# THORAS LANG NEW MASTERCLASS, PLUS EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW

### RAFAEL MOREIRA TRIO LIVE EVENT FT. THOMAS LANG

# FEATURED PERFORMANCES

## ON THE AIR

DC PODCAST, DRUM SOLOS & JAMS, Incredible interviews, Performances





# COMING SOON

JAKE REED, GREGG BISSONETTE, THOMAS PRIDGEN & BAND

#### FOUNDER'S DOWNBEAT



I want to tell you about some site upgrades to help keep you on track with new things to learn.

We call them "Daily Challenges" and they are found right on your Dashboard as something fun to add to whatever course you are taking at the moment. Some challenges will certainly take more than a day, and some will be super easy, but all of them are important, and most will lead you to longer lessons on those subjects. It is a cool way to dig into the huge catalog of lessons we have for you.

There is a "Challenge" every day, including three new Playalongs with lessons on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, ranging from Beginning to Intermediate and Advanced. There is something for everyone, and even if you are advanced, you should definitely play all of them to improve your feel and groove.

Then, Monday through Thursday, we feature short lessons that you can have the whole week to work on.

Let me know what you think and how you are doing.

What can you say about Thomas Lang - Amazing, Mind-Blowing Clinician of the Year? Instead of going on and on, check out his features in the newsletter and everything else he has on DC.

Happy early Thanksgiving!

Don Lombardi



Now Playing in your Dashboard EVERY DAY! Playalong with your favorite songs, or sharpen your skills with a bite-sized Daily Challenge, delivered fresh seven days per week! <u>Check it out!</u>

We love hearing from you! If there is anything you want to learn or playalong to, please reach out to us at support@drumchannel.com!

### LIVE STREAMS

NEW

SAT, NOV 4 THOMAS LANG LIVE! 9:00 AM PT

WED, NOV 8 TERRY BOZZIO LIVE 5:00 PM PT

SAT, NOV 11 THOMAS LANG LIVE 9:00 AM PT

TUES, NOV 14 LOMBARDI LIVE! FT. JAY WEINBERG 5:00 PM PT

#### SAT, NOV 18 THOMAS LANG LIVE! 9:00 AM PT



SAT, NOV 18 | 10:00 AM PT RAFAEL MOREIRA TRIO (PAY-PER-VIEW)

TUES, NOV 21 LOMBARDI LIVE! FT. PAUL WERTICO 5:00 PM PT

SAT, NOV 25 9:00 AM PT THOMAS LANG LIVE!

#### DRUM CHANNEL PRESENTS RAFAEL MORE RATRO SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18 - 10:00AM PT LIVE AT DRUM CHANNEL

لآلآل

**RAFAEL MOREIRA** 

FRANCISCO FATTORUSO

THOMAS LANG

ONLINE PAY-PER-VIEW EVENT Limited Tickets – Reserve Yours Now **drmch.nl/rafatrio** 







Join Thomas Lang as he guides students and actively engages with a live chat, answering many frequently asked questions about technique, independence, and much more! Indulge in an immersive three-hour masterclass, complete with a diverse array of exercises, invigorating warmups, and invaluable tips to elevate your drumming skills to new heights.



## **TOPICS COVERED IN CLASS**

- Hand Clapping Exercise
- Hand Opening Exercise
- Foot Heel Down Exercise
- Foot Technique Demo
- Practicing Foot Dynamics
- Sitting Position
- Inverted Doubles on Feet
- Wrist Stroke Exercise
- Developing Weak Hand
- Setting Up Around the Snare
- Ascending and Descending Fills

- Dynamic Unisons
- Dynamic Alternate Strokes
- Decrescendo Exercise
- Kick Pedal Tension
- Grip
- Practice Rules
- Prevent Noodling
- Dealing with Fatigue
- Using Rudiments
- Rudimental Warm Ups
- Using Different Techniques (Hands)
- Limiting Orchestration on Kit



# THOMAS LANG

A drummer retires from a major act. You get the call to audition. Which band do you want it to be? Sting

What is the biggest/worst injury that you have ever had to perform with?

I had to perform with a broken arm.

Do you ever miss playing traditional grip?

Yes, I do. I actually have dreams about playing traditional grip again occasionally, so strangely, that must mean I'm missing it somehow.

You are left-handed naturally. Why don't you play hi-hats and ride cymbal leading with your left hand?

I do, occasionally. I was taught right-handed, and I like the close-up feeling of the hands crossing while I'm playing.

What would you choose if you could only eat one country's cuisine for life?

I'm eating Austrian food, and specifically, schnitzel.

**Imagine you had never taken up the drums. What would you have done with your life?** I would have become a physicist. I love physics.

Do you have siblings? If so, what do they do for work?

I have a brother and a sister. I'm the youngest of three kids. My brother is a university professor. He teaches film and alternative media. My sister is also very creative. She worked in textile production and design and built a huge company.

What is your favorite mode of transport?

Airplane

Jeans and a T-shirt or a Suit and Tie?

Jeans and T-Shirt

At what age did you do your first arena/stadium show?

I played my first stadium show at 16 in Austria.

Which drum invention do you wish you had created?

The double pedal.

What are your three of your favorite movies?

Interstellar, Blade Runner (the original), The Sixth Sense

What was the first drum clinic you ever attended?

That was a Billy Cobham clinic in Vienna when I was 12 or 13.

Which young drummers are on your radar for becoming future stars?

That's really hard. Johannes Gritschacher is one.

## Your Saturday morning live streams are very popular on Drum Channel - who would your dream guests be?

Stewart Copeland, Danny Carey, Ringo Starr, Lars Ulrich

Mac or PC?

Mac

Could you describe your perfect vacation?

Caribbean sandy beaches, delicious healthy buffets, archery, tennis, great gyms, and I would stay for four weeks.

Do you prefer driving at night or daytime?

Daytime

You can hang out on the tour bus for a month with a classic rock band in their heyday. Who are you hanging with?

That's tough. Maybe, Wings.

Do you have tattoos and/or piercings?

Yes

What is the biggest drag about being a drummer?

It's dragging your gear around all the time. The numerous different boxes and cases and carrying everything around, setting up, and assembly. That is the real drag.

You are making your own band. What would be your dream line-up out of anyone who ever lived? Jeff Beck on guitar, Sting as a singer and bass player, Herbie Hancock on keys.

Do you have any habits that you want to break?

Yes, eating too much and eating unhealthy foods.

Pick an imaginary superpower - invisible, fly, or time travel?

Time travel.

What do you consider to be your personal superpower?

My superpower is patience.

What are some of your most memorable drumming moments?

When I played my first stadium show, performing for the first time at the Modern Drummer Festival and performing for the first time with my own personal project and band.

Which instrument other than drums are you best at?

Keyboard/piano and bass.

Who are your drum heroes?

Buddy Rich, Vinnie Colaiuta, and Stewart Copeland

Would you rather get \$10,000,000 tomorrow or go back in time to the 80s and be a 14-year-old again, still remembering all you know now?

I want to time travel and go back in time.

Did you ever need to wear an embarrassing outfit to play with a particular band?

Yes, I did on many occasions, working with various pop bands. I had to wear outfits that were not in line with my personal taste and were extremely uncomfortable for drumming. Like super tight purple silk suits, for example.

What is the most embarrassing haircut you ever had?

A bleached blonde mohawk with shaved sides. I was too lazy to style it, so it would just be a strip of hair going down my head. I decided to dye it blue at one time. Not my best look.

Which style of music would you never, ever play?

I can't think of any. I'm open to all music and can appreciate all music. If I'm hired to play, I'm happy to play all styles.

**Do you have any phobias? Snakes? Planes? Snakes on a Plane?** No, none

#### What was your first paid gig, and when was that? How much did you earn on that gig?

My first paid gig was when I was 7 or 8 years old. I performed with my mother's choir on bongos and was paid with brand-new drumsticks.

#### What is the scariest situation you've ever been in while on tour?

Many driving issues - car crashes and bus crashes. Also, weather incidents - heavy storms on stage, lightning strikes on stage, injuries to people on stage due to falling objects, debris, and heavy wind, and seeing people get hurt on stage from things falling.

You've had countless snares during your career. Is there one that you miss/wish you still had? Yes, more than one, but one, in particular, was the bell bronze Sonar 14x8 with the matching stand, which weighed almost 80 pounds.

It's 1976. AC/DC, Fleetwood Mac, and Elton John all need a drummer. Which would you choose? That's a tough choice. If I have to choose, I'll go with AC/DC.

Have you ever sung lead/backing vocals while drumming?

Yes, both.

## You are going on stage in two hours, and it's a big show. What are you eating/drinking before the show? And after?

Before the show, whatever is in the green room or backstage. I'm not picky. I wouldn't drink too much alcohol before the show. I would eat fairly lightly. After the show, I like having a healthy sitdown dinner with protein, vegetables, and a nice glass of wine. That's always a good end to an evening.

#### What is the biggest band or artist you nearly joined but never happened for whatever reason?

I was supposed to audition for Sting at a soundcheck in Miami years ago, but unfortunately, the day I was supposed to travel to the audition, a hurricane hit the venue in Miami, and the show never happened. That was the tour's last show, so the opportunity went away.

You have had a fantastic career with a huge amount of diversity - name one thing you still have yet to accomplish.

There are multiple things, not just one. I'm still working on everything in all areas of my playing and my general competence as a musician, not just on the drums. For me, it's a never-ending story. There's no finish line. I'm always working on some type of improvement.

#### How many languages do you speak?

Four comfortably, five in total. English, German, Austrian, Italian and Spanish If you put your mind to it, do you think you could learn or achieve anything in life? Yes

#### Are you good in a fight?

I used to be.

#### Best advice for young/aspiring drummers?

Wear many hats in all areas. Be able to play any drumming style and be the best you can be. With respect to all the related activities to performing, learn as much as possible from engineering, producing, mixing, composing, on-stage production, management, and marketing. Try to educate yourself in all areas of expertise related to our business.

#### **Book recommendations?**

For drum books, I would recommend, "Master Studies" by Joe Morello, "Advanced Techniques for the Modern Drummer" by Jim Chapin, Dante Agostini's books on drumming, "Stick Control" by George Lawrence Stone. For non-drumming books, I recommend, "Talent is Overrated" by Geoff Colvin, "Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell, "Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance" by Angela Duckworth, and Joe Dispenza's books for personal development. I'm Austrian, so I also like Kafka, Nietzsche, and some philosophy. You know one that's really good? "The Best Jokes Ever Told" by Chuck Norris.



Born on July 10, 1981, in Güssing, Austria, **Aaron Thier** has been captivated by drums since he was just three years old. His journey in music began with the formation of the Pop/Rock band "Mesiac" in 1996, which later won the "America is Waiting" band award in 2001. Aaron's career has included a diverse range of experiences, from performing with the "Chris der Berg" Frank Zappa Project to participating in the "Tribute to Falco."

He's gained recognition with endorsements from Anatolian Cymbals, TAYE Drums, and DW Drums. Alongside his musical pursuits, he's a dedicated educator, conducting drum shows and workshops in Austria and abroad. His extensive repertoire also includes collaborations with notable artists and bands like "Erste Allgemeine Verunsicherung" and the Jazz/Fusion Quartet "CARA Quartett," which he co-founded in 2018.

Aaron Thier's career is a testament to his unwavering passion for drumming and his ability to excel in diverse musical settings. Prepare to be inspired as you enjoy Aaron's incredible performances on DrumChannel.com.



#### **"BEYOND SPACE" PERFORMANCE**

"NARRISCH" PERFORMANCE



#### **AARON THIER DRUM SOLO**



**PRACTICE ROOM - TOTO: ROSANNA** 



Copyright  $\bigcirc$  Drum Channel 2023

#### **PRACTICE ROOM: TOTO - ROSANNA**



Copyright © Drum Channel 2023

#### EDUCATION.

## DC MUST-SEE

#### ENTERTAINMENT.

#### GHOSTBUSTERS DRUM COVER BY THOMAS LANG



#### **Gregg Bissonette's Story** Behind David Lee Roth & Steve Vai's 'Skyscraper'

# WHERE DID BILLY COBHAM GET HIS SUPERHUMAN CHOPS?



#### THE DRUMMER'S ROLE FEATURING AARON SPEARS



#### JOE TRAVERS & TERRY BOZZIO DRUM JAM



#### THE DRUM CHANNEL PODCAST

