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The Significance of 3/2 Polyrhythm

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 3/2 POLYRHYTHM

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The numbers 1, 2, and 3 and their mathematical relationships are perhaps the most important ratios in the context of musical harmony. Much research exists on this topic; however, the rhythmic implications have been much less documented. I argue that the effect of the 3:2 ratio is just as important in rhythm as it is in harmony, perhaps second only to the mathematical relationship of the numbers 1 and 2. Through years of research and performance, my certainty in the significance of these relationships in music has only intensified. The goal of my presentation is to explain some of the well documented information on the topic, such as Pythagoras' research into mathematics and harmony, and then to explain how his theories function almost identically in the context of rhythm. This explanation is to be accompanied by my own demonstrations of the rhythmic relationships performed on drums and percussion in order to paint a complete picture. The format of the presentation will be a pre-recorded video (approx. 12 minutes in length) followed by a 3-minute Q&A session.