

module is their openness and tweekability. I'm just scratching the surface playing with sounds. I haven't even delved into the advanced sequencing and synthesis available onboard."

It turns out that ProjeKct Two has become a little more than an impromptu jam session for Belew. "Being the drummer on ProjeKct Two has been an important step for me," he says. "It's helping me more easily formulate solo music I'm

working on for an upcoming release, as well as impacting King Crimson, which will also utilize the V-Drum techniques." (Crimson drummer Pat Mastelotto now owns a V-Drum kit.)

"Part of my role in ProjeKct Two was to keep Robert and Trey interested," he continues, "and just spring new things on them, and the V-Drums really helped open some creative doors for us. I must admit the V-Drums are simply incredible. They

plugged in

have such a nice feel, they sound amazing. They're a huge advance forward."

Apparently this fresh approach helped win over at least one vocal drum critic. "Fripp gave me the greatest compliment. He said he loved my drumming because I don't think like a drummer." Well, at least he didn't tell any stupid drummer jokes. ■

Used Drum Machine Price Guide

An Easy Introduction to Electronic Percussion

by Norman Weinberg

Could it be that drum machines are not as popular as they once were? A few years ago Alesis, Casio, E-mu, Kawai, Korg, Roland, and Yamaha all had competing models in the stores at the same time. Today, fewer companies compete for your drum machine dollars, due in part to the popularity of software sequencers. But there are plenty of gigs where taking a computer, monitor, and all the necessary accessories would be a huge pain in the butt. In many cases, a drum machine is the perfect way to go.

Drum machines are really all-in-one MIDI production studios. A drum machine contains the controller (the buttons you push to fire the sounds), the sound module (the internal drum and percussion samples), and even a small amplifier to drive the headphones — everything you need to create electronic music. There's really no better way to get started with electronic percussion than getting your hands dirty with a drum machine. You'll learn about programming, sequencing, sound design, and mixing.

To the right are some current prices of drum machines available on the used market. Those of you with Internet access can use your browser and one of the many popular search engines to look for these instruments in newsgroups and public auction sites. You can find some great bargains here and save yourself a ton of dough.

Before you dive into the used drum machine market, here are a few hints that you should keep in mind: Be sure to ask the seller if the unit is complete with manuals and in top working condition. Ask if there are any features (hardware or software) that aren't working properly. Ask if there are any extras such as additional sound cards, start/stop pedals, cases, or the original

factory box. And ask about the condition. One person's "like new" condition might be another's "poor." If possible, ask them to e-mail, fax, or snail-mail a photo of the actual unit.

The prices listed below do not include shipping, which is usually paid for by the buyer.

Model	High	Low
Alesis D4	\$275	\$155
Alesis DM5	\$360	\$270
Alesis SR-16	\$225	\$125
Boss DR-110 Dr Rhythm	\$100	\$50
Boss DR-660	\$300	\$250
Boss DR-5	\$295	\$200
Cheetah MD-16	\$125	
Electro Harmonix DRM-15 (analog)	best offer	
Kawai R-50	\$125	\$75
Korg DDD1	\$100	\$95
Linn 9000	\$575	\$475
Linn Drum (Original)	\$400	
Roland 606 Drumatix	\$250	\$200
Roland 707	\$150	\$125
Roland R5	\$325	\$200
Roland R70	\$400	\$325
Roland R8	\$300	\$250
Roland R8 MKII	\$575	
Roland TR-505	\$95	
Yamaha RX-120	\$50	
Yamaha RY-30	\$275	\$250