‘One Headlight’ Performance notes.

I did both a ‘Chart’ and ‘Transcription’ for this song. Not only because I wanted to absorb the awesomeness of Matt Chamberlains drumming, but also to make an extreme differentiation between the 2 contrasting ways of writing, reading and interpreting drum notation.

It was also another good chance to test out my Sibelius chops (which aren’t great yet). Half open Hi Hat?.... Anyone...?

The transcription is as intricate as I could get it, while the chart is as empty as possible. Both require a certain skill set to read, and neither is better or more difficult to pull off at a gig. Chart reading requires experience and musicianship to navigate bar numbers and set up new sections appropriately. Transcription, more a technical co-ordination and chops challenge.

If you don’t know who Matt Chamberlain is, you need to get hip to this guy. He transforms what appears on the surface to be ‘Billie Jean’ into a masterclass in subtlety and restraint. All while still rocking out. How do you play a Grammy winning rock song and not use a crash? That’s right there’s no crash cymbal in the entire track. And only a handful of tom hits to boot.

The pocket is deep and that snare tone alone should have you crying like a baby if you are a fan of drumming or music in general.

Loose AND tight (how is that possible?), minimalist, tasty and a tonne of forward momentum. This track is groove-tastic. Hope you enjoy it as much as I do!