

PERFORMANCE NOTES: 'UNDER THE BRIDGE'

By ANDREW ROONEY

THIS IS THE CHILI'S MAGNUM OPUS IN MY OPINION. THEIR 'STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN' IF YOU LIKE. THE SONG BUILDS TO A HUGE CRESCENDO COMPLETE WITH CHOIR AND THE JIGGLING PECS OF LEAD SINGER ANTHONY KEIDIS AS HE RUNS FOR HIS LIFE (IN THE VIDEO). BUT HOW DID WE GET TO THAT EPIC FINALE? LET'S ANALYZE CHAD SMITH AND SEE HOW HE BUILDS AND RELEASES TENSION BEFORE PUTTING HIS FOOT DOWN FOR THE OUTRO.

HE KICKS OFF WITH HI HAT AND RIM CLICKS 4 TO THE BAR. SUBTLE YET DRIVING.

0:51

DRUM SET

VOCALS ENTER. TIME TO LEAVE EVEN MORE SPACE.

2

Dr.

I LOVE THIS SUBTLE GROOVY FILL INTO THE CHORUS GROOVE. VERY SILKY AND IT PROPELS THE SONG ALONG IN BETWEEN SECTIONS.

3

Dr.

THE SECOND VERSE (WITH DRUMS) HAS BUILT ORGANICALLY INTO A SYNCOPATED 4 BAR GROOVE THAT SYNCHS PERFECTLY WITH THE BASSLINE.

5

Dr.

THE TENSION FINALLY GIVES IN BAR 58 WHEN CHAD BREAKS FROM THE RIM CLICKS/HH AND FILLS INTO A HARD HITTING OPEN SNARE/RIDE GROOVE. I LOVE THE KICK AND SNARE TONE HERE. IT'S RAW AND PUNCHY.

9

Dr.

THE FINALE OF THE SONG ENDS WITH A SLICK DOUBLE CRASH HIT INTO THE LAST BAR. CHAD KNOWS HOW TO SET UP SECTIONS PERFECTLY.

11

Dr.



THIS TRACK IS A LESSON IN MUSICAL DRUMMING. SUPPORTING THE SONG. PLAYING OUT WHEN NECESSARY. THE DYNAMICS ARE REALLY NICE AND TENSION AND RELEASE IS USED TO FULL EFFECT.

IT'S A CLASSIC TRACK FOR A REASON!