

## Ralph Rolle Drum Clinic Report

By: Naoki Tatsuta Music, studio owner

I saw three clinics of Ralph Rolle's clinics in Japan in August of 2016.

Ralph gave various types of classes depending on the audience and with great passion.

- How to get and keep a gig
- Good snare technique
- How to build a good groove

He can do the class not only for drummers but also the class for all kinds of musicians as well as vocalists. Since he played with many great musicians and still he is called by top artists, he understands what the musicians need to do to be in a professional band. His function is not just a drummer, but "a cop of the block!" He knows how to control the band and improve the sound to fit the song.

He has great drumming technique. But his focus is not just drum technique but how to use and control the technique to contribute to build the music and groove. Japanese musicians tend to focus on technique but sometimes it destructs the music. He reminds me the nature of playing the music.

He also gave us the essential things, like how to approach the music and own life. He spent a very long time for Q&A. He told everyone that asking questions was one of the top jewels he used in his early life...and even now.

All participants told me that they were so impressed and motivated by his clinic.

Again, I feel his clinic will be great for all musicians. And, the performance part of his clinic was very great too.

Naoki Tatsuta

