

**SECOND EDITION**

NOTCH

HP 12

BP 12

LP 12

LP 24

**RICK SNOMAN**

# **DANCE MUSIC MANUAL**



CD-ROM  
INCLUDED



# **Dance Music Manual**

This page intentionally left blank

# **Dance Music Manual**

## Tools, Toys and Techniques

**Second Edition**

**Rick Snoman**



ELSEVIER

AMSTERDAM • BOSTON • HEIDELBERG • LONDON • NEW YORK • OXFORD  
PARIS • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO • SINGAPORE • SYDNEY • TOKYO

Focal Press is an imprint of Elsevier



**Focal  
Press**

Focal Press is an imprint of Elsevier  
Linacre House, Jordan Hill, Oxford OX2 8DP, UK  
30 Corporate Drive, Suite 400, Burlington, MA 01803, USA

First published 2009

Copyright © 2009, Rick Snoman. Published by Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved

The right of Rick Snoman to be identified as the author of this work has been asserted in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher

Permissions may be sought directly from Elsevier's Science & Technology Rights Department in Oxford, UK: phone (+44) (0) 1865 843830; fax (+44) (0) 1865 853333; email: [permissions@elsevier.com](mailto:permissions@elsevier.com). Alternatively you can submit your request online by visiting the Elsevier website at <http://elsevier.com/locate/permissions>, and selecting *Obtaining permission to use Elsevier material*

#### Notice

No responsibility is assumed by the publisher for any injury and/or damage to persons or property as a matter of products liability, negligence or otherwise, or from any use or operation of any methods, products, instructions or ideas contained in the material herein

#### British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

snoman, Rick

The dance music manual : tools, toys and techniques. – 2nd ed.

1. Underground dance music
2. Sound recordings – Remixing
3. Electronic composition

#### I. Title

781.6'41554134

**Library of Congress Control Number:** 2008935934

ISBN: 978-0-2405-2107-7

For information on all Focal Press publications  
visit our website at [www.focalpress.com](http://www.focalpress.com)

Printed and bound in the USA

09 10 11 12 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Working together to grow  
libraries in developing countries

[www.elsevier.com](http://www.elsevier.com) | [www.bookaid.org](http://www.bookaid.org) | [www.sabre.org](http://www.sabre.org)

ELSEVIER

BOOK AID  
International

Sabre Foundation

*This book is dedicated to my children: Neve and Logan.*

This page intentionally left blank

# Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	ix
PREFACE .....	xi
MUSICAL WORKS.....	xiii

## **PART 1 • Technology and Theory**

<b>CHAPTER 1</b>	The Science of Synthesis .....	3
<b>CHAPTER 2</b>	Compression, Processing and Effects .....	31
<b>CHAPTER 3</b>	Cables, Mixing Desks and Effects Busses.....	57
<b>CHAPTER 4</b>	Programming Theory .....	77
<b>CHAPTER 5</b>	Digital Audio .....	127
<b>CHAPTER 6</b>	Sampling and Sample Manipulation .....	135
<b>CHAPTER 7</b>	Recording Vocals.....	151
<b>CHAPTER 8</b>	Recording Real Instruments.....	169
<b>CHAPTER 9</b>	Sequencers .....	179
<b>CHAPTER 10</b>	Music Theory .....	201

## **PART 2 • Dance Genres**

<b>CHAPTER 11</b>	House .....	231
<b>CHAPTER 12</b>	Trance .....	251
<b>CHAPTER 13</b>	UK Garage.....	271
<b>CHAPTER 14</b>	Techno.....	283
<b>CHAPTER 15</b>	Hip-Hop (Rap).....	295
<b>CHAPTER 16</b>	Trip-Hop .....	313



<b>CHAPTER 17</b>	Ambient/Chill Out.....	329
<b>CHAPTER 18</b>	Drum 'n' Bass.....	347
 <b>PART 3 • Mixing &amp; Promotion</b>		
<b>CHAPTER 19</b>	Mixing.....	363
<b>CHAPTER 20</b>	Mastering .....	399
<b>CHAPTER 21</b>	Publishing and Promotion.....	425
<b>CHAPTER 22</b>	Remixing and Sample Clearance .....	449
<b>CHAPTER 23</b>	A DJ's Perspective.....	467
<b>Appendix A</b>	Binary and Hex .....	485
<b>Appendix B</b>	Decimal to Hexadecimal Conversion Table.....	491
<b>Appendix C</b>	General MIDI Instrument Patch Maps.....	493
<b>Appendix D</b>	General MIDI CC List .....	497
<b>Appendix E</b>	Sequencer Note Divisions.....	499
<b>Appendix F</b>	Tempo Delay Time Chart .....	501
<b>Appendix G</b>	Musical Note to MIDI and Frequencies .....	503
INDEX .....		507

# Acknowledgements

I would like to personally thank the following for their invaluable help, contributions and/or encouragement in writing this book:

*Catharine Steers at Elsevier (for being so patient)*

*Colin and Janice Lewington*

*Darren Gash at the SAE Institute of London*

*Dave 'Cannockwolf' Byrne*

*DJ 'Superstar' Cristo*

*Mark Penicud*

*John Mitchell*

*Mick 'Blackstormtrooper' Byrne,*

*Helen and Gabby Byrne*

*Mike at the Whippin' post*

*Richard James*

*Steve Marcus*

*Everyone on the Dance Music Production Forum*

*All music featured on the CD – ©Phiadra*

*(R. Snoman & J. Froggatt)*

*Vocals on Chill Out supplied by Tahlia Lewington*

*Vocals on Hip Hop supplied by MC Darkstar*

*Vocals on Trance and Garage supplied by Kate Lesing*

*Cover Design: Daryl Tebbut*