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## Scam (1994)

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**Transcription Notes:** Another one for fans of slap bass playing. 'Scam' is a bass fest of both the slap and finger style techniques. This track is also co-written by Zender, and see's that the bass player isn't always over looked as a writer. The track consists of three main sections and bass riffs. Both the Verse and Chorus parts are consistent throughout with many variations and fills in the bass department. The third section is the trumpet solo/outro part, based over a Samba-esque/Latin style.

The bass stuart used on this track was in fact an Alembic Epic 4 string. This bass was only usually seen as a backup bass during the live performances and was used in very early performances. The sound recording is quite typical of the Alembic sound, very bright and sharp and really comes to life in the Chorus with the upper region slides.

Although the Verse sections are relatively consistent, there are a few fills and rhythmic changes to look out for. The dead notes are also integral to the part, many of them matching the rhythm played by Derrick McKenzie on the drums. As you may be able to hear from the track, only the first section of each Verse riff is slapped – so you have to be able to quickly change to play each second bar with your fingers.

The Chorus is the trickiest part to play and emulate in terms of sound. The part is filled with syncopation, slides and trills, and will require a fair bit of practice to nail correctly. You will have to move your hands quickly to ensure you get back down to that G note at the end of the bar and play those octave patterns with as much feeling as possible. Listen to the track carefully to try and get a similar sound going with your fingers, and if possible, practice it slower at first.

Finally, the trumpet solo and outro sections. This riff is based on a tight eighth and sixteenth note rhythm. The main areas to watch out for are the sixteenth note runs to the next chord, the syncopated octave patterns over the Cmaj9/F# chord, and the fills that occur over the same chord. Stu would use both fingers and slap in this section, so to clone this, you will require the fast technique changes.

**Track Info:** Occasionally played live during TROTSC tour, and before this album, heard as a variation of different tracks or an early incarnation of what it later became.