

TOURNANTE DES GRANDES POTERIES
(France)

Traditionally, this dance from Haut-Berry was done by 2 men, but since the folk "revival" in France, it is done by both men and women. Originally it was an improvisational dance, but it has now come to be danced in a fixed choreography. Learned in France, 1984.

Pronunciation: Lah toor-NAHNT day GRAHND po-TREE

Cassette: Bal Folk en Californie by Le Soleil Side B/4 3/8 meter

Formation: 2 dancers side by side, R shldr adjacent, spaced at random about the room.

Steps and Styling: The basic styling for the bourrées from Berry is very flat, with steps taken on the full ft. Knees are slightly bent throughout. Arms are relaxed at sides, held slightly away from the body. There is a "gliding" quality to the movements, with a slight downward accent on ct 1 of the décalage step. There is a certain reserve and intensity happening simultaneously in these bourrées. The writer George Sand aptly described it in her book "Le Meunier d'Angibault" when she described the Berrichon people and their dances: "...Aucun peuple ne danse avec plus gravité et de passion en même temps...."

Meas

Pattern

3 meas INTRODUCTION

I. R SHOULDER-L SHOULDER

- 1 Step diag back R on L ft (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3). The two dancers are now facing each other.
- 2 Step on R ft in place (ct 1); step slightly diag fwd to R on L ft (ct 2); close R ft to L (ct 3) -- "Decalage" (DAY-kah-lahzh).
- 3 Step diag fwd R on L ft (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3). Note: dancers are now side by side, L shldr adjacent.
- 4 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).
- 5 Step diag back L on L ft, turning CCW (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3), completing 1 full turn to end facing ptr.
- 6 Step on R ft in place (ct 1); step slightly diag fwd to L on L ft (ct 2); step on R ft next to L (ct 3) -- "Décalage"
- 7 Step diag fwd L on L ft (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3). Note: Dancers are now side by side, R shldr adjacent (starting pos of dance).
- 8 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

Continued...

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II. WALTZ TURNS

- 1-4 Repeat meas 1-4, Fig I.
- 5 Step diag fwd L on L ft turning CW (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3), completing 1/2 turn. Dancers are now facing each other.
- 6 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).
- 7 Step diag fwd R on L ft, turning CW (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3), completing 1 full turn. Note: Dancers are side by side, L shldr adj.
- 8 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).
- 9 Dancers travel back along the path they just came: Step diag back L on L ft, turning CCW (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3), completing 1 full turn. Note: Dancers are now facing each other.
- 10 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).
- 11 Step diag fwd L on L ft, turning CCW (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3), completing 1/2 turn. Note: Dancers are now side by side, L shldr adj.
- 12 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).
- 13 Step diag back L on L ft, turning CCW (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3), completing 1 full turn. Note: Dancers are now facing each other.
- 14 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).
- 15 Step diag fwd L on L ft (ct 1); step on R ft next to L (ct 2); step on L ft next to R (ct 3). Note: Dancers are now side by side R shldr adjacent in starting pos of dance.
- 16 Dance pas de bourrée in place (R,L,R).

Note: In Fig II dancers are traveling and turning along a "diamond" pattern on the floor.

Dance repeats from beginning.

Presented by Marilyn Wathen

Ojai, '86