

LA TOURNIJAIRE
(Auvergne, France)

There are many variants of this dance found in the Massif-Central. This particular variant is an arrangement of figures learned in France from Yvon Guilcher, summer 1984. I also saw three other variants of this dance in the Rouergue.

Pronunciation: lah TOOR-nih-JIGH-ruh

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

Formation: Cpls in a circle, W on M's left. Hands joined, arms up in "W" pos.

Meas Pattern

3 meas

+ 1 ct INTRODUCTION

I. RONDE

8 meas traveling to L: styling is smooth, flat, gliding. Knees are slightly bent throughout.

1 Facing ctr and traveling to L, step on L ft to L (ct 1); close R ft to L (ct 2); step slightly sdwd to L on L ft (ct 3). Ct 1 is a much bigger step to L than ct 3.

2 Still facing ctr and traveling to L, cross R ft in front of L (ct 1); step to L on L ft (ct 2); close R to L (ct 3).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, but on meas 8 dance pas de bourrée basically in place, ready to change direction.

8 meas traveling to R:

1 Facing ctr and traveling to R, step on L ft slightly behind R (ct 1); step on R ft beside L (ct 2); step on L beside R (ct 3). Note: This step travels only slightly to R. It is used as a transition step to change direction.

2 Step on R ft to R (ct 1); step on L ft beside R (ct 2); step on R ft slightly to R (ct 3).

3 Step on L ft crossing in front of R (ct 1); step on R ft to R (ct 2); step on L ft beside R (ct 3).

4 Repeat meas 2.

5-8 Repeat meas 3-4 above, 2 more times. On meas 8, dance pas de bourrée basically in place, or traveling only slightly to get ready for REFRAIN which follows.

REFRAIN

1-8 W: Forming a circle in ctr, hands joined and arms in "W" pos, W repeat Ronde figure, traveling 8 meas to L (as in Fig I).

M: Beg L ft, M dance individual CW turns with pas de bourree step as in Fig I (Ronde). M hold arms up and slightly fwd.

9-16 W: Reverse direction of ronde and travel 8 pas de bourrée steps to R as in Fig I above.

M: Facing ctr, travel to L (CW) with basic pas de bourree step as in Fig I (Ronde). Arms still up and slightly fwd.

LA TOURNIJAIRE (Continued)II. R AND L HAND AROUND

- 1-8 Facing ptr (the W is on the M's L), join R hands (arms bent) and dance 8 pas de bourrée steps traveling CW in a circle with ptr, beg with L ft.
- 9-16 Facing "corner" (the W on M's R) join L hands and dance 8 pas de bourrée traveling CCW in a circle with "corner."

REFRAIN

- 1-16 Repeat meas 1-16 of REFRAIN.

III. PANIER (Basket hold)

- 1-8 M form front basket hold by joining hands in front of W. (W are already in a circle with hands joined from the REFRAIN; W lower arms in this figure so M can form basket hold over their arms).
Circle travels to L 8 meas, beg with L ft.
- 9-16 On ct 1 of meas 9, change to regular hand hold (arms up in "W" pos). Circle continues to travel 8 meas to L with basic pas de bourrée (Ronde formation), beg with L ft.

REFRAIN

- 1-16 Repeat meas 1-16 of REFRAIN

IV. CHAINE

- 1-2 Facing ptr (W on M's L) join R hands (arms bent) and beg R and L chain, M traveling diag L out of circle, W traveling diag L twd ctr of circle with 2 basic pas de bourrée steps, beg with L ft.
- 3-4 Give L hand to next ptr, M traveling diag R twd ctr of circle and W traveling diag R out of circle with 2 basic pas de bourrée steps, beg with L ft.
- 5-8 Note: M travel CW around circle; W travel CCW around circle
Repeat meas 1-4 above, traveling around the circle and chaining with ptr #3 and ptr #4.
- 9-10 With ptr #4, do 2 basic pas de bourrée turning 1/2 turn CCW around each other to face in opp direction (the direction from which you came).
- 11-16 Repeat meas 1-6: M now travel CCW around circle; W travel CW alternating R hand (meas 11-12); L hand (meas 13-14); and end facing orig ptr. Dancers use meas 15-16 to get into closed social dance pos with orig ptr.

V. VALSE (Note: There is no REFRAIN after Fig IV - Chaine)

- 1-16 In closed dance pos, waltz 16 meas with ptr, M beg with L ft, W with R ft, turning CW and traveling CCW around circle.

Ending: Musicians play an "ending" motif - M may turn ptr CW under their joined hands to finish the dance.