

AVANT-DEUX DE TRAVERS

(Brittany, France)

This is a dance from the Nantes area of Brittany. Learned from Noel Toudic in 1981 and again from Germain Hébert.

FORMATION:	Lines of couples, W on M's R, facing another line of couples, W on M's right. Each man is facing a woman (not his partner) across the set. Arms are down at sides, hands are not joined.
STEPS:	Footwork is described for men. Women do same step with opp ftwk and direction, moving in mirror image of men.
Basic Step:	M: Point L ft in front of R (ct 1); do 3 chassé steps to L (cts 2&, 1&, 2). Repeat with opp ftwk and direction. W: Do same as men with opp ftwk and direction

METER: 2/4	PATTERN
Meas	

INTRODUCTION: None.

Figure 1: (done by half the people on the floor)

1-4 All the M with their R shldr twd the music and all the W facing these men across the set, dance the Basic Step 4 times (twice to each side), while the other dancers watch and clap on cts 1,2,3,4.

Figure 2: The same dancers then do the Pivot and Chassé:

1-2 Men point L ft in front of R (ct 1), and with a buzz step do1 full turn in place to own L (CCW) (cts 2&, 3&, 4); W do same with opp ftwk and direction.
3-4 M point R ft in front of L, then chassé to own R as in Basic step; W do same with opp ftwk and direction.
5-6 M and W repeat meas 3-4 above with opp ftwk and direction.
7-8 Repeat meas 3-4 above.

Figure 3: Buzz-Swing (Pivot); (done by everyone)

1-8 With partner in shoulder-waist position, all dancers do 16 buzz swings, turning CW, beginning with R ft.

Figure 4: Avant-Deux (done by everyone)

1-2 With the 2 lines of couples facing each other, each cpl in open dance position, couples dance fwd with Basic Step (M point L ft in front and then chassé fwd, W point R ft in front and then chassé fwd)
3-4 Repeat with opp ftwk and direction
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 of the Avant-Deux

Repeat dance from beginning, but this time all the people who did NOT dance Figure 1 the first time, do it now while the others clap. Continue in same way to end of record.

*Presented by Marilyn Smith at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 2004
(Revised from previous descriptions by Dean Linscott and Germain Hébert)*