

Quadrille de Saint-Basile

(French Canada)

A *quadrille* from the village of St-Basile, Portneuf County not far from Quebec City. Learned from Denis Côté and Normand Legault. Some recreational folk dance groups prefer to dance only parts 1-4 of the dance because of time limitations and also because the last two figures work out best with live music. This quadrille is traditionally not called.

Pronunciation: kah-DREEHL duh SEHN BAH-zeel

Music: 2/4 meter CD: *Yves & France Moreau Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2009*, Band 12.

Formation: Cpls facing other cpls across in "contra" lines. M's R hand holding W's R hand
 Note: The figures described below are just "cue" calls for persons who have learned the dance in a workshop situation. The measures column indicates here only how many meas it takes for each action.

Steps and Styling: "Lazy man's" Ladies' Chain: W cross with R hand; M moves to R and takes W L hand and raises it; W turn CW under joined hands; W go behind M who change to inside hands joined.

Meas Music: 2/4 meter Pattern

I. LA PETITE PROMENADE (the little promenade)

- 2 Intro. No action.
- 8 *Chaîne du reel* (M follows W around "inside track" and back home, single file).
- 8 Swing ptr.
- 4 *Avant-deux* (present) fwd and back.
- 4 *Traverser* (cross over) , M follow W in the lead (on R side of "track").
- 8 *Avant-deux* (present) fwd and back and *traverser* (cross over)
- 8 *Chaîne des dames* (ladies chain) using "lazy man's" type of chain.
- 8 Swing ptr.

II. LES QUATRE COINS (the four corners)

- No intro.
- 4 *Avant-deux* (present) fwd and back (M and W trade places as they go back: W passes in front of M. Let go of hands when moving back.)
- 4 *Traverser* (different from Fig I): Cross over, passing through R shldrs, and turn alone.
- 8 Repeat *Avant-deux* and *Traverser* reversing to come back.
- 8 *Chaîne des dames* (ladies chain) as in Fig I.
- 8 Swing Ptr.
- Repeat whole Fig II one more time.

Quadrille de Saint-Basile—continued

III. LA PETITE BALANCE (the small balance or “ocean wave”)

- 2 Intro. No action.
- 4 *Avant-deux* (present) fwd and back (as in Fig I).
- 4 *Traverser* (cross over), M follow W in the lead (on R side of "track").
- 8 Repeat *Avant-deux* and *Traverser* reversing to come back.
- 8 *Chaîne des dames* (ladies chain).
- 8 Swing ptr.
- 4 M1 and W2 do a L-hand turn once around, meet ptr with R hand ending up in lines of four (“ocean wave”), M facing down the set, W facing up.
- 4 Lines of 4 move 4 steps fwd and 4 steps bkwd (W move bkwd).
- 4 Repeat fwd and bkwd (previous 4 meas).
- 4 W in lead, cross over to other side (like a regular *traverser*).
- Repeat from Ladies’ Chain through cross over.
- End with *Avant-deux*, ladies’ chain, and swing.

IV. L’HOMME À DEUX FEMMES (the man with two women)

- 2 Intro. No action.
- 8 Ladies chain.
- 8 Swing ptr.
- 4 Cpl 1 only, move fwd twd cpl 2 (shldr-waist pos). This figure is executed slowly.
- 4 Cpl 1 only, move bkwd to place.
- 4 Cpl 1 only, move fwd twd cpl 2 and leave lady with M2.
- 4 New trio 2 move fwd "pushing" lone M1.
- 4 M1 stays in place and trio moves back.
- 4 All go fwd, meet in middle, forming a tight circle traveling CW. When reaching opp side (4 cts) do some *chassé* steps away to opp place (4 cts).
- 4 Do four *chassé* steps fwd and back.
- 4 With four *chassé* steps, cross over to orig place, M passing back to back (turn L).
- 8 Ladies chain.
- 8 Swing ptr.
- The whole sequence repeats, but with cpl 2 moving fwd twd cpl 1.

V. LA GALOPE (the gallop) (La Bastringue)

- No intro.
- 16+ Grand promenade all the way around the perimeter of the quadrille to get back home. The number of measures needed depends on the number of cpls in the quadrille. Also, with live music, this figure is more flexible. Special step (used to do the promenade): cpls side to side in closed ballroom pos, take two steps fwd beg with inside ft; take one step bkwd on inside ft, take one step in place with opp ft. **Note:** Optionally, cpls walk around perimeter of the square turning as a cpl on the corners.

Quadrille de Saint-Basile—continued

- 4 *Avant-deux* (present) and back with cpl across.
 - 4 *Traverser* (cross over).
 - 4 *Avant-deux* (present) and back.
 - 4 Cross over.
 - 4 Half Ladies' Chain.
 - 8 Swing.
- Repeat all of the above a second time to return to own ptr.

VI. CONCLUDING FIGURE

- No intro.
- 8 All join hands in a big circle and go fwd and back two times.
- 8 All swing.
- 8 Grand promenade around the circle with the Special Step (see Fig. V).
- 16+ Change ptr (M raise joined hands, W go under and fwd), swing, and promenade.

Note: For Figs V and VI, it is hard to determine how many meas are needed to complete the entire fig. Much depends on the numbers of cpls on the floor. With this recording, it is likely that there will not be enough music to get back to orig ptr.

Presented by France Bourque-Moreau