

Quadrille “La Haute-Taille”

(Martinique, France)

A caribbean version of the popular french quadrille. Settlers brought their dances along with their tools and belongings. We learned only the first part called “Pantalon.” There are 4 or 5 parts in total. Source: Group “Canne à sucre,” Héritage 1997 International, Lachine, Québec, Saturday July 5th. The dance is “called” in “French Creole” for our dancing pleasure.

Pronunciation: kwah-DREE-yah law OHTA TAY-ya

Music: CD “Cocorico”, Band14 2/4 meter

Formation: 4 couples in regular squareformation. W carry a fan in L hand and hold skirt with the R. M hold L handbehind back.

Steps: Basic: A low two-step, close to the ground, through-out the whole dance. R,L,R for cts 1&2; L,R,L for cts 3&4. Steps can vary with energy level from 3 steps in place to first step slightly forward and third step slightly back.

Swing: Face ptr, R hip to R hip, R hand on ptr’s L shldr, 2 Basic steps rotating CW in place, then 2 Basic steps to release handhold and allow W to turn 1/4 out to her R.

Meas

Pattern

4 meas

INTRODUCTION (No action).

I. IN PLACE AND FWD AND BACK

5-12 In place, all do 8 basic steps, starting on R.
13-14 All join hands, move fwd 2 basic steps.
15-16 Reverse meas 13-14. Release hands at the end.

II. THE VISITS

During this figure, dancers will move in opp dir: M to L (CW) and outside the square; W to R (CCW) and inside the square.

1-4 Moving away from ptr, M meet opp W using 4 basic steps. Bow.
M #1 with W #3; M #2 with W #4 ... and so forth.

5-8 Turn ½ to L, come back home 4 Basic steps.

9-16 Acknowledge ptr while passing, and continue visiting by gong in the opp direction from meas 1-8 (M dance CCW, W dance CW), all turning ½ L to return to home position.

Quadrille “La Haute-Taille”—continued

III. PANTALON

- 1-4 Head cpls change place, W leading, with 4 basic steps. Pass L shldrs.
 5-8 Back home same way.
 9-12 Same cpls fwd and back. Use 2 Basic steps to move fwd and 2 Basic steps to move back.
 13-16 Same cpls swing.
 17-18 Active W move across the set with 2 basic steps. W pass L shldrs.
 19-20 Swing the opposite M.
 21-22 Active W come back home. W pass L shldrs.
 23-24 Swing your own.
 25-40 Repeat meas 1-16.

IV. THE VISITS

- 1-16 All repeat meas 1-16 of Fig II.

V. PANTALON

- 1-40 Side cpls repeat meas 1-40 of Fig III.

VI. BALANCE AND SWING

- 1-4 Face your corner, 4 basic steps in place.
 5-8 Swing your corner.
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 facing and swinging your ptr.

VII. THE FINAL VISITS

- 1-16 Repeat meas 1-16 of Fig II, M removing their hats if they are wearing one.
 Final bow to your ptr.

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