

Suite Des Deux-Sèvres

(Poitou, France)

Here are three easy dances from the department of Deux-Sèvres, formerly a part of Poitou. Learned from Michel Piot, Pont-Chrétien, April 1972.

Pronunciation: SWEET-tuh day duh-SAYV-ruh

Music: CD "Cocorico", Band 11.

2/4 meter

Formation: Quadrette: one cpl facing another cpl.

Meas

Pattern

8 meas INTRODUCTION Form a R-hand star. Begin dancing with the bagpipe.

LA VRIE (lah VREE)

I. R-HAND STAR

- A 1 All starting on L, with a running two-step, turn formation CW.
 2 Step-hop on R, and swing L fwd.
 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times, completing approx 1.5 rotations.

II. STEP SWING

- B 1 Ptrs face, hands on waist, step on L (ct 1); hop on L, scuffing R ft across L ft, and lifting in front of L (ct 2).
 2 Reverse meas 1, stepping on R (ct 1) and scuffing L ft across R ft and lifting in front of R (ct 2).
 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 total).

Repeat "LA VRIE" from the beginning 4 more times.

LE PASTILLET (LUH-pahs-tee-YAY) (slower tempo)

I. AVANT-DEUX (FWD AND BACK)

- A 1-2 Starting on L. Turn slightly to the L to lead with R shldr. Ptrs move to each other with 4 slow walking steps, meeting ptr on R shldr. Drop the R shldr on the last ct, bending R knee.
 3-4 Walk away from each other the same way (L,R,L,R). L is lifted slightly in front. On last step turn slightly so L shldr is twd ptr.
 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

II. MODIFIED CHAIN

- B 1-2 Joining R hand with ptr, change places using 4 walking steps.
 3-4 Joining L hand with opp, turn by L one full rotation CW with ptr.
 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to return to beg pos.

Repeat "LE PASTILLET" from the beginning twice more (3 total).

Suite Des Deux-Sèvres—continued

LA CONTREDANSE (lah kawn-truh-DAHNS) (Faster tempo)I. CHASING GOATS

- A 1-8 Start with L. Bending body fwd and moving CW on the quadrette, run 16 steps, clapping hands (twice around).

II. GRAND R AND L

- B 1-8 Join R hand with ptr and do a regular R and L moving in opp direction (M CCW, W CW) twice around using 16 walking steps.
Grand R and L can be done once or twice around; use 4 steps for each hand or use 2 steps for each hand, depending on the ability and agility of the dancers.

Repeat “LA CONTREDANSE” one more time (2 total).

Presented by Michèle Brosseau and Germain Hébert