

# 1972 SAN DIEGO STATE COLLEGE FOLK DANCE CONFERENCE

Presented by Robin Evanchuk

## LA VIOLETTE and AVEINE

"J'ai Un Long Voyage a Faire" a French Ronde from Touraine is an obvious predecessor of the Louisiana French "La Violette". The Louisiana version, however, has changed the rather noble and elegant French form to one more lively and more suitable to American dance styles. About "Aveine", Mrs Blanchet states that possibly this dance came to Louisiana with the Acadians at the beginning of the seventeenth century. It is very similar in text and rhyme to the old English song "Oats, Peas Beans and Barley Grow" which suggests it is ver old indeed.

MUSIC: SNARK CF 852

METER: 2/4 and 6/8

FORMATION: Single circle of partners, W to R of M. Hands joined & down.

2/4 time  
Meas 1-8

All circle R, two steps to each measure beginning with R ft. Joined hands swing fwd when stepping on R ft and bwd when stepping on L.

9-16

Using two steps to each measure, do a grand R & L, hooked elbow style. Pass your partner on first meas (1&2&) (Steps are on the ct, not on the "&" beat). Pass second M on second meas (3&4&) Pass third M on third meas ( 5&6&) Go completely around the 4th person for 2 meas ( 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 &) You now face BACK the way you came.

Grand R & L BACK

Pass 3rd person ( 11 & 12 &)

Pass 2nd person (13 & 14 &)

Keep 2nd person as new partner, joining hands in one big circle for 2 counts. (Two steps will be done in place ) (15 & 16).

Circle has thus re-formed and dance begins from measure one again. This section of the medley is done three times through, then "Aveine" the 2nd dance is in the medley begins. There is no pause.

6/8 time  
1-4

The single circle of partners from "La Violette" is retained. Beginning on R, all circle R, 2 steps to the meas. (Arms and arm movement are the same i as in meas 1-8 of "La Violette".

5

Stop circling and let go of hands. Both M & W remain facing into center of circle. The hands of the W are on hips, (wrists on hips fashion) and the arms of the M are folded in front of them.

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- 6-7 All put L heel fwd, then bring it back to place and step on it ( 6 & ) Put R heel fwd and bring it back to place (7&)  
You are now standing with wt evenly distributed on both ft.
- 8-9 THIS PART OF THE DANCE IS WHERE THE ACTIONS OF THE DANCER ARE SUITING WHAT THE WORDS OF THE SONG ARE DIRECTING HIM TO DO, SUCH AS: CROSS THE FEET, CLAP THE HANDS ETC. THE ACTION OF MEAS 8-9 WILL CHANGE EACH TIME THROUGH THE DANCE.  
The first time through the dance the directions are to cross the feet and cross the hands. This is done by crossing the L ft over the R in front of the ankle, L toe touching floor. (8&) (Hands are still on hips) Then the arms are folded in front of the body (9&). This is then followed by meas 10-12  
The 2nd time through the dance the directions are to "tap the feet, and clap the hands", for this the L ft is place out in front with the toe pointed, and the foot is tapped on the floor twice, on the ct of 8&. On the ct of 9, the foot comes back to place. On the ct of 9&, the hands are clapped quickly four times, 3 times on ct 9, and once on ct &. While hands are clapping then the tapping L ft is comingback to place. (This is followed by meas 10-12).  
On the 3rd time through "Aveine", the directions tell the dancer, "Cross the feet and cross the hands, tap the foot and clap the hands". Thus there are two extra meas added to the song the 3rd time through. It is a cumulative song like "Old MacDonald".  
The dancers now do meas 8 and 9 as they did them the 1st time through followed immediately by meas 8 and 9 as they did them the second time through.
- 10-12 Swing partner 1/2 way round CW, then reform circle for 2nd stanza, with each M taking W now to his R for a new partner. The swing is done by joining hands and beginning with L ft doing five crisp little walking steps to place.  
On the 3rd time through the dance, instead of swinging the partner 1/2 way round, each person does an individual turn in place CW, doing 4 little walking steps and ending with a slight bow from the waist for the M, and a small curtsey for the W facing partner. ( Do not change partners at the end of the 3rd time through. )

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Song Words and Translations=La Violette and Aveine=

"La Violette" The Violet

Rosignol, si tu saurais  
Le grand voyage qu'on a pour faire.  
La violette , ca doubl' ca double,  
La violette, ca doublera.

(last lines variation)

La violette, ca double, double  
La violette, ca doublera

Nightingale, if you did know  
How far it is I have to go.  
Violet, you grow double, double,  
Violet, double you will grow.

Aveine - the Oat-field

Aveine, aveine, aveine, que le printemps ramene  
On se repose comme ceci et comme cela,  
Croisez les pieds et croisez les mains  
Faites un p'tit tour chez le voisin.

II

(First two lines are the same)  
Tapez les pieds et tapez les mains  
Faites un p'tit tour chez le voisin.

The oat, the oat, the oat-field which spring makes green again  
Here you are resting first like this and then like that,  
Crossing your feet, then crossing your hands.  
Turn a small turn and start again.

II

(First two lines are the same)  
Tapping your feet, then clapping your hands.  
Turn a small turn and start again.