

BOURREE A DEUX TEMPS

(Bourbonnais - France)

Bourrées are very popular dances throughout Central France. They are danced in opposite lines of M & W. The general structure involves figures where the dancers go fwd twds each other and then cross over to partner's side. The *bourrées* from the Bourbonnais region are mostly in 2/4 time and are generally calmer than the ones in the Auvergne and Berry regions in 3/4 time. *Bourrées* are often played on the *vielle à roue* (hurdy gurdy) and *cabrette* (bagpipe). Learned from the *Bourrée Gannatoise* Group in July 1991 at Heritage Workshop, Cornwall, Ontario..

Pronunciation: Booh-rayh ah duh tahn
Music: Yves & France Moreau CD
Rhythm: 2/4
Formation: Line of M facing line of W
Style: Slight knee bend
Basic step: The basic *bourrée* step consists of the following: Meas 1: step fwd on L (1) Touch ball of R ft fwd and to R of L , feet apart (2); Meas 2: step on R in place with marked knee bend (1) gentle "pumping step" onto ball of R ft (&); transfer wt again onto R with knee bend (2)

Meter: 2/4

Pattern

Introduction: slow tuning on hurdy gurdy. Start with melody line

1. Avant-Deux (Forward and back)

1-2 Do basic bourrée step fwd twds partner, and back
3-8 Repeat basic bourrée step fwd and back, 3 more times

2. Traverser (Crossing over)

1 Using basic bourrée step, go fwd twds partner and face L (getting close to partner); on the "R-pump-step", go fwd
2 Turn 1/2 turn CW on first half of basic (you're now facing partner) and back away with 2nd half of basic
3-8 Repeat pattern of meas 1-2, three more times

Note: Slight modifications can occur in the fwd and crossing steps. Ex: For the avant-deux figure, first head twds partner, R shldr to R shldr, move back and then do the same motion again ending L shldr to L shldr.

For the traverser figure, use 1 basic step to exchange place with prtnr turning CCW (very close to prtnr) and then backing out straight.

Repeat dance from beginning.

Presented by Yves Moreau

Presented at DCFF, July 2008, by Dit Olshan, as learned from Yves At Madison Folk Ball, 2003