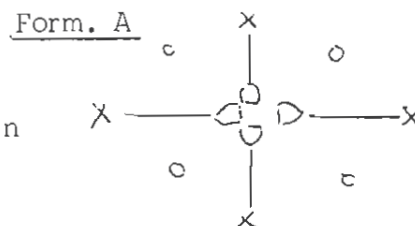


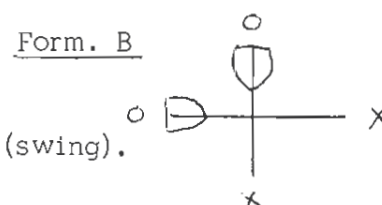
LA DANSE DES BALLAIS

This dance like many other French-Canadian dances exists with few versions. This one has been taught by Mr. Guy Thomas to the Canada's National Folk Company "LES FEUX-FOLLETS." He collected les ballais from an old from an old dancer in Lac St-Jean. The Scottish sword dance might be the origin. "Ballais" means broom.

Formation: A. Four cpls in circle: M(X) put his broom in front of him. W(O) stand and dance between two brooms. The first cpl is back to the music.



B. Two cpls in circle. W are in front of their ptr.



Position: Close social dance for Pas-de-pivot (swing).

Record: The music for this dance does not exist on record. Any good French-Canadian jig can be used. I suggest Le Reel du Voyageur, Folkways FG-3531A, Band 1. I am recording a few LP's especially for dances. It will be available soon.

STEPS: A. Pas-de-basque Canadien

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Ct</u>	
1	&	R ft to the R (twd the ctr)
	&	L ft in front of R ft
	1	R ft in place
	&	Pause
2	-	Same with L ft, and repeat meas. 1.
3	&	R ft to the R
	1	L ft touch in front of R ft (the other side of the lateral broom)
	&	L ft to the L
	2	R ft touch in front of L ft (the other side of the lateral broom)
4	-	Same as meas. 1 bkwd

LA DANSE DES BALLAIS (Cont)

B. Gigue-Simple ou Pas-du-Berceau (cradle)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | & | R toe touch the floor and go up in front. |
| | & | R ft touch the floor and come back but stay in the air |
| | 1 | R ft close to L ft |
| | & | Pause |
| 2 | - | Same with L ft |

C. Pas-de-Transition (basic or change step)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | | Gigue-simple with R ft (without step between 2 steps)
Pause
L toe touch the floor near R ft. |
| 2 | - | Same with L ft |

D. Pas-de-Cote or Enchainement de Gigue-Simple

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | | Gigue-simple with R and L ft (without stop between steps)
Pause |
| 2 | - | Point L toe twice in the back of R (with a small up)
Step on L ft in the back of R
Gigue-simple with R
Small up on L
Step on R close to L |

E. Pas-de-Pivot (swing, R ft inside)F. Pas-de-Scottiche

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | | Step with R and up on it
Step with L and up on it |
| 2 | | Step R, L, R, and up on it. |

GENERAL PLAN

<u>First Part</u> (4 cpls)	<u>Fig.</u> I	Passe-Ballais
	II	Circuler
	III	En Avant Double
	IV	Circuler
	V	En Avant Double
	VI	En Avant Double
	VII	Transition

LA DANSE DES BALAIS (Cont)

<u>Second Part</u> (2 cpls)	<u>Fig.</u> I	En Avant Simple
	II	Circuler
	III	En Avant Simple
	IV	Circuler
	V	En Avant Double
	VI	Circuler
	VII	En Avant Double

EXPLANATION

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Fig.</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
	<u>I</u>	<u>Passe-Ballais</u>
1		M hold one end of the broom with R hand. Step in place on L, R, L. Up on L ft and Pass it over the broom by the inside.
2		Same beginning with R ft.
3-8		Same for 6 more times. The last step (last 2 cts) is done like this: Step on R, L while putting the broom down. L ft is free to start Fig. II.
	<u>II</u>	<u>Circuler</u>
1-4		Twd L till the next broom, 2 D. steps, starting with L.
5		C. step on place (R become free).
6-7		D. step to the R.
8		C. step in place (R is free).
	<u>III</u>	<u>En Avant Double</u>
1-8		2 A. steps.
	<u>IV</u>	<u>Circuler</u>
1-4		2 D. steps to the R.
5-8		With 4 C. steps, turn to your R (CCW).
	<u>V</u>	<u>En Avant Double</u>
1-8		Fig. III again. At the end, W stay in the ctr facing her ptr.
	<u>VI</u>	<u>En Avant Double</u>
1-8		Fig. III in this new pos. At the end, M pick up the broom (on the last 2 cts).
	<u>VII</u>	<u>Transition</u>
1-6		Cpl 1 swing with cpl 2, and cpl 3 with cpl 4 (cpl 3 become cpl 1 also).

LA DANSE DES BALAIS (Cont)

Second Part:

- | | | |
|---------|------------|---|
| | <u>I</u> | <u>En Avant Simple</u> |
| 1-4 | | Cpl 1 does Fig. III of the 1st part. |
| | | Cpl 2 does 4 C. steps in place. |
| 5-8 | | Same thing with reverse cpls. |
| | <u>II</u> | <u>Circuler</u> |
| 1-4 | | 2 D. steps to the R. |
| 5-8 | | 2 C. steps turning R (CCW) 2 turns. |
| | <u>III</u> | <u>En Avant Simple</u> and <u>IV Circuler</u> |
| 1-8 and | | Same as Figs. I and II. |
| 1-8 | | |
| | <u>V</u> | <u>En Avant Double</u> |
| 1-8 | | Same as Fig. III of the 1st part. |
| | <u>VI</u> | <u>Circuler</u> |
| 1-8 | | 4 F. steps to the L (all hands are joined) for 2 turns. |
| | <u>VII</u> | <u>En Avant Double</u> |
| 1-8 | | Same as Fig. III of the 1st part. |

Presented by Michel St-Louis