



QUADRILLE FRANÇAIS DES BALS PUBLICS

(Cancan Quadrille)

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From many early sources and illustrations from the 1830s through 1880s, and one later source, Eugene GirouDET's *TRAITE DE LA DANSE*, 7th edition, ca. 1890.

In the public dance gardens of Paris, students kept the old *chassé*, *jeté*, *assemblé* and fancy balancing steps that they had learned when they were younger, and they exploded them, so that the *jeté* throws of the legs became kicks, and *balancés* became even more extravagant.

GirouDET's 1890 version of the first figure *Le Pantalon* was oversimplified to the point that almost nothing of the original *Pantalon* remained, but the original *Pantalon* figure continued for decades, so that figure is retained here, performed in the *Cancan* manner.

Formation: One couple facing one couple, with the lady at the right of the gent.

LE PANTALON, Figure 1 of the First Set

- 4 Honor partners
- 8 *Chaine Anglaise*, crossing over, Turn partner by the L hand. Return to places the same way.
- 8 *Balancé* partner and swing by the left hand.
- 8 *Chaine des Dames* (Ladies Chain).
- 8 *Demi Promenade* (promenade across taking crossed hands, but swinging partner in a clockwise rotation as you cross over); *Demi Chaine Anglaise* to places.

SISONNE BALANCÉ

- 2 Gent jetés L in place while folding the R ankle behind the L knee, then kicks R into the air to the right side. Repeat opposite. The lady mirrors the same.
- 2 Turning Polka traveling one-quarter around the set of two couples.
- 12 Repeat three more times, to return home.

LA PASTOURELLE, Figure 4 of the First Set, with **Cavalier Seul for the men**

- 4 First couple advance and retire, with partner.
- 4 Advance and the gent releases his lady to the opposite couple and returns to his place.
Optional: the opposite gent may hold the R hand of his partner with his R hand, and hold the L hand of his opposite lady with his L hand.
- 8 The gentleman "executes all the variations that he knows" (Cavalier Seul).
- 4 Forward Three and back, with second gent taking ladies outside hands.
- 4 Forward again then the gentleman leaves the two ladies to the first gentleman, spinning them over to the other gent. The three take normal inside hands.
- 4 Solo Gent walks around in a circle to prepare himself.
- 8 The second gentleman executes his solo variations.
- 4 All take hands-4 and circle left all the way around, throwing heads back.
- 4 Continuing the CCW rotation, turn partner to places with open-2-hands.

- 4 **BREAK** Wait and acknowledge partner.

FIGURE, combining elements of La Poule and the remaining figures of the First Set

- 8 All Traverse (cross over to the other side), changing places by passing right shoulder.
Return to places, again passing by the right shoulder.
- 8 All Balancé and turn partner by the left hand.
- 4 Forward Four (En Avant-Quatre). All galop 4 slides forward to opposite couple, then back 4 slides.
- 4 Demi-Promenade, galoping across to the other side, gents passing back to back, wheel 1/2 CCW.
- 8 Repeat the Avant-Quatre and Demi-Promenade to places.

MAZURKA OF THE BALS PUBLICS

- 2 Gent takes his partner in a bal public waltz position (possibly only holding his partner with his R arm), steps forward L, replaces back R, rocks back L, replaces forward R. Lady dances opposite.
- 2 Pivot or jeté pivot 4 steps into the corner space.
- 4 Repeat, ending in opposite places.
- 8 Repeat 2 more times to end up back in original places.

LA PASTOURELLE, with Cavalière Seul for the ladies.

- 4 Second couple advance and retire with partner.
- 4 Then the lady releases her partner to the opposite couple; she returns to her place.
- 8 The lady executes all the variations that she knows (Cavalière Seul).
- 4 Forward Three and back.
- 4 Then forward; then the second lady leaves the two men to the first lady.
- 4 Solo lady walks around in a circle to prepare herself.
- 8 The second lady executes her solo variations.
- 4 All take hands-4 and circle left all the way around, throwing heads back.
- 4 Continuing the CCW rotation, turn partner to places with open-2-hands.