

15th Century Italian Dances for Sets of Three People

Taught by Lady Alasais Bandeli (katie.sadler.stephenson@gmail.com)

Belfiore

Begin with all three in a line one behind the other. It is written for 2 men with a woman in between, but can be done with any configuration of genders.

Quadernaria:

- 12 pive forward.
- Person 1 continues forward with a double.
- Person 2 catches up with a double.
- Person 3 catches up with a double.

Piva:

Each does a movimento in turn (Person 1, then 2, then 3).

Quadernaria:

Each does a voltatonda in turn (Person 1, then 2, then 3).

Piva:

- Person 1 goes to the end of the line with 3 doubles, ending with their right shoulder toward Person 3.
- Person 2 does the same.
- Person 3 does the same.

NB: Be sure to keep the set small at this point to make the next section easier.

Person 1 and Person 3 circle clockwise around Person 2 with a double, switching places.

Person 2 does 3 pive and a single, circling to their right around Person 1, then between Person 1 and 3, continuing forward to end just in front of the other two.

Repeat twice more, with Person 3 falling in behind Person 2, and Person 1 at the end as the pive begin.

Voltati In Ça Rosina

Begin with all three side by side. It is written for 2 women with a man in between, but can be done with any configuration of genders.

Part 1 (Quadernaria):

- 2 doubles forward.
- Voltatonda with 2 doubles.
- Person 2 goes forward with 2 singles and a double.
- The other two catch up with the same. As they finish their double, Person 2 does a meza volta.

Part 2 (Quadernaria):

- All do 2 saltarelli to expand the set, ending with a meza volta.
- Ripresa left, ripresa right.
- Voltatonda with a double.
- 4 continenze (left, right, left, right).
- All approach with 2 singles and a double.
- Back away a double.
- NB: This is a good time to adjust the size of the set.*
- Voltatonda with a double.
- Ripresa right.
- Long riverenza.
- 4 continenze as before.

Part 3 (Piva):

- Person 2 takes right hands with the person on their right and they circle with 4 pive.
- Person 2 does the same by the left hand with the other person.
- All do a hey with 8 pive.

Dance repeats.

Spero

Begin with all three side by side, holding hands. It is written for 2 women with a man in between, but can be done with any configuration of genders.

Part 1 (Quadernaria):

- 4 doubles forward, with two quick stomps at the end of each.
- Person 2 leaves with 2 singles and a double.
- The other two catch up with the same. As they finish their double, Person 2 does a meza volta.

Part 2 (Quadernaria):

2 doubles flankingly (left, then right) in the direction the dancers are facing, with two quick stomps at the end of each, and ending with a meza volta to face.

Part 3 (Saltarello):

4 saltarelli to pass by each other and end with a meza volta to face again.

Ripresa left, ripresa right.

Part 4 (Bassadanza):

Riverenza left, single left backward.

3 riprese portogalesi (flanking forward - right, left, right). Person 1 and 3 end with a meza volta so all are facing down the hall.

Ripresa left.

Voltatonda with two singles (right and left) and a ripresa right.

Riverenza left.

Part 5 (Piva):

Person 2 takes right hands with the person on the right and they circle with 3 pive (left, right, left).

Person 2 does the same by left hands with the person on the left (right, left, right).

Person 2 movimento, the others movimento.

Person 2 voltatonda, the others voltatonda.

Dance repeats, with Person 1 and Person 3 in the opposite roles.



Links to music and other information can be found at the Renaissance Dance Database (<http://www.rendancedb.org>).