

15th Century Italian Dances for Sets of Couples

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Pizochara - 4 couples

Piva:

Begin with the couples one behind the other, and do 12 pive forward, starting on the left.

Men 4 pive clockwise around partner.

Women 4 pive counterclockwise around partner.

Bassadanza:

Riverenza. Ripresa right.

Men 2 singles and 11 doubles, following man 1 in front of woman 1 and weaving between the women to the bottom, coming up on the right side.

Ripresa left.

Saltarello:

Women movimento; 9 saltarelli, following woman 1 in front of man 1 and weaving between the men to the bottom, coming up on the right side.

Piva:

Couple 1 separate with 2 riprese (single steps sideways).

Couples 2-4 do 4 pive up between Couple 1 so that Couple 2 is just in front of them.

Couple 2 separate with 2 riprese.

Couples 3 and 4 do 4 pive up between Couple 2 so that Couple 3 is just in front of them.

Couple 3 separate with 2 riprese.

Couple 4 does 4 pive up between Couple 3 so they are just in front of them.

Dance repeats with the set inverted. New Couples 2-4 piva up and together to begin the dance again.

Colonesse - 3 couples

Saltarello:

Begin with the couples one behind the other, and do 16 saltarelli forward, starting on the left.

Bassadanza:

The middle couple takes right hands and circles with 2 singles and a double, then takes left hands and circles back with 2 singles and a double, and riverenza left.

Meanwhile, the last couple does 2 singles and 4 doubles, weaving between the other two couples and up to the front of the line, with the man leading and ending up improper.

Repeat 2 more times, with each couple taking a new role each time, until all are improper.

Piva:

Men circle their partners counterclockwise with 3 pive, starting on the left.

Women circle their partners clockwise with 3 pive, starting on the right.

Quadernaria:

Men movimento, women movimento.

Back away with a double right.

Come back together with a double left, turning to face up the hall, remaining improper.

Repeat with the women in the men's positions.

Legiadra - 2 couples

Saltarello:

Begin with the couples one behind the other, and do 16 saltarelli forward, starting on the left.

After the saltarelli, Couple 1 does a mezzavolta to end improper, facing the other couple.

Bassadanza:

Couple 1 does a ripresa left and ripresa right, while Couple 2 does 4 continenze, starting on the left.

All do 2 singles and 2 doubles forward, with Couple 2 passing between Couple 1, and both end with a mezzavolta right to face the other couple.

Ripresa left, ripresa right.

4 continenze, starting on the left.

Return to place with 2 singles and 2 doubles, with Couple 1 passing between Couple 2, and end again with a mezzavolta right to face.

Ripresa left, ripresa right.

Quadernaria/Bassadanza:

Couple 1 movimento, Couple 2 movimento.

Man 1 does a saltarello tedesco on the left foot into the center of the set.

Woman 2 meets Man 1 with a saltarello tedesco on the left.

Facing, Man 1 and Woman 2 change places by rotating with 3 riprese right.

Man 1 and Woman 2 do a voltatonda, moving back into each other's starting place.

Repeat this section, with Man 2 and Woman 1 switching places.

Piva:

Men go to the far side of their partners with 2 pive.

Women do the same.

Quadernaria:

Couple 2 movimento, Couple 1 movimento.

Couple 2 voltatonda while Couple 1 mezzavolta so all face forward and are proper.

Repeat with women going first.



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