



Repertoire

20 - Season

International Folk Dance Ensemble

Performing Arts Management
801-422-3576 | pam.byu.edu

JOURNEY

Opener: Reflections

USA: Traveler

As settlers on the American frontier, our ancestors believed in working hard and playing hard. This rendition of a turn of the century celebration displays the enthusiasm and freedom that helped build the character of the USA.

USA: Cluck Old Hen

USA: Western Wildfire

A precision style dance featuring both traditional American clogging and the latest power tap steps.

USA: Orphan Girl

Romania: Călușul

Călușul is a ritual dance with origins dating back to Roman times, performed each spring between Easter and Pentecost, primarily in southern Romania. The Călușari are oath bound men who travel from house to house to bless people and crops for the upcoming year. They dance over children and sick people to cure illness and promote health, and end each courtyard ritual with a village hora. They wear red to ward off the evil eye, and use the sound of bells and spurs to frighten away evil spirits, called iele.

Romania: Plaiuri Oltenesti

Two vigorous women's dances from the region of Oltenia: Sârba pe loc and Hora în Mereul.

Wales: Dawns Y Gloesen

Dawns y gloesen is a light hearted clog dance featuring young lads performing on and around wooden platforms. It was common to see young men in the local taverns dancing up on tables to produce livelier sounds than could be made from the earthen floor.

Ireland: Hornpipe Set

Irish hard shoe step dancing is part of a long tradition in Ireland. This set dance is a Hornpipe played in a time signature and is ornamented with intricate step dance rhythms. This dance is an example of the "Open Championship Level" Irish dance competition style.

England: Rapper Sword

Part of the Morris dance family, the “rapper”, or flexible sword dancing, originated in coal mining communities of Northumberland and Durham, England. Traditionally, men weave intricate patterns whilst comic characters “Tommy” and “etty” try to join in the fun.

Mexico: Fandango Veracruzana

The music and dance of Veracruz blends Spanish, African, and Caribbean rhythms. Old is made new, including the timeless la bamba wedding dance as couples “tie the knot.”

USA: Wagoner’s Lad**India: Terah Taali**

Terah Taali is a folk dance of the Kamar tribe from the state of Rajasthan, India. It is performed during the Pushkar fair by the women using special metal hand cymbals called Manjeeras. The dance is done in the praise of Hindu deity Lord Ramdev Pir.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE**Hungary: Dulandlé**

In Kalotaszeg, Transylvania, a dulandlé was placed on the head of the new wife until the birth of the first child. This is a fine white veil with embroidery around the edges. This choreographic work portrays the emotional state of a young girl preparing for marriage, accompanied by the beautiful and distinct dances of the Kalotaszeg region. The spectacular men's dance—the competitive Legényes, often considered in Hungary as the “King of Dances”—is accompanied by two types of couples' dances: the csárdás, which is perhaps the quintessential Hungarian couple dance, and quick csárdás (szapora), that is manifest in its speed and virtuosity.

Hungary: Élő Fény

Men’s dances from the village of Méhkerék are much loved. This slapping and clapping style with very intricate rhythmic patterns is favored on the stage by numerous professional Hungarian dance ensembles.

China: Mo Li Hua

Mo Li Hua, meaning jasmine, is also a famous Chinese folk song. The flower, though not particularly beautiful, gives off a fragrance that gladdens the heart and refreshes the mind—symbolizing internal beauty and humility.

USA : After You’ve Gone**USA: The Breakaway Bug**

A Lindy-style tap dance.

USA: Jump Jive an' Wail

The Lindy Hop combines jazz, tap, breakaway, and Charleston dance styles. Originating in Harlem, New York, in the 1920s, it crossed racial boundaries as both Black and White dancers came together at the integrated Savoy Ballroom. The dance was named after Charles Lindbergh, the famous American aviator who “hopped” across the Atlantic. Dancers build upon a basic swing step and improvise as they solo and partner freely. Get ready for some fast-paced fun with flips, spins, and, of course, hops.

Tonga: Ha'ele Ki Pilitania

The tau'olunga, a traditional Tongan dance still performed today, can be presented at any special occasion. Most often performed by an individual young woman or a small group of girls, the dance consists of hand movements which interpret the meaning of the song. This tau'olunga is a tribute to Tongan dynasties of the past, and tells the story of Queen Salote Tupou III who managed to make a name for herself at Queen Elizabeth II's coronation parade. Despite the pouring rain, Queen Salote chose to ride in an uncovered carriage as a sign of respect for the new British Monarch. "Ha'ele Ki Pilitania" reflects Queen Salote's legacy of traditional Tongan respect, passed down through generations.

Denmark/Norway: Tretur

The hardanger fiddle (hardingfele), a special Norwegian instrument, is featured on this piece. Unique to western Norwegian folk music, this instrument has 5 additional strings underneath the bowed strings to create resonance.

Ireland: Irish Blessing

Ukraine: Hopak

Recognized as the national dance of Ukraine, Hopak was performed exclusively by men in the 15th and 16th centuries during the famous Cossack period. By the 19th century, women had become a regular part of the dance, adding to the vivacious spirit of this Ukrainian hallmark.

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