

Bonny Jean

devised by Robert McOwen

Tune: Bonny Jean O' Aberdeen¹ played AA BB twice

Introduction (2 Bars)

Bars 1-2: Sweep RF around behind to curtsey, then sweep RF back to point RF in 3rd.

Step 1 (32 Bars)

Bars 1-4 = Counts 1-8:

Step RF to 2nd taking LF to 3rd aerial (1), shake LF to 4th int aerial (&a2), rock fwd LF pointing RF in 3rd rear (3), rock back RF pointing LF in 3rd (4). Repeat contra (5-8).

Bars 5-8 = Counts 1-8: 1st Half Break (to R)

Step RF to 4th int (1), close LF in 3rd rear releasing RF to 4th int aerial (2), balance springing RF (3) then LF(4); hop & travel RF to 4th int (5&6), change LF front (7), entrechat (&8) to finish with LF in 3rd.

Bars 9-12:

Repeat Bars 1-4 contra.

Bars 13-16 = Counts 1-8: 2nd Half Break

Step LF to 4th int (1), Close RF in 3rd rear releasing LF to 4th int aerial (2), balance springing LF (3) then RF(4); Step LF to 4th int (5), close RF in 3rd rear (6), release LF & point in 3rd (7).

Bars 17-32: Repeat Bars 1-16 contra.

Step 2 (32 Bars)

Bars 1-4 = Counts 1-8:

Execute double shake with RF to 2nd aerial & hop LF (&&a1), close RF to 3rd rear (2), lift LF through 3rd aerial to 3rd rear aerial and step LF in 3rd rear (3) beginning to turn to right, complete half-turn right by stepping onto RF away from audience and then closing LF in 3rd rear (&4)²; execute a syncopated hop with RF making another half-turn right to face audience (5&6), hop LF with shuffle RF (7&), spring RF with shuffle LF (8)³.

Bars 5-8 = Counts 1-8:

Repeat Bars 1-4 contra, finishing with shuffle RF (8&).

Bars 9-16: Full Break (to R)

I.e. dance Bars 5-8 and then Bars 13-16 of Step 1.

Bars 17-32:

Repeat Bars 1-16 contra.

Step 3

Bars 1-4 = Counts 1-8:

Beginning with a hop LF (&), glide RF towards 4th int (1), hop RF extending LF to 4th rear int aerial (&), glide LF forward and across RF (2); execute 2 brushes RF while hopping LF (3,4); assemble RF in 3rd, step RF towards 4th int, close LF in 3rd Rear (5&6); disassemble LF with high cut RF in 3rd aerial (7&), place RF in 3rd on half-point and beat LF in 3rd rear extending RF to 4th int aerial (a8).

Bars 5-8 = Counts 1-8:

Bouree devant from RF, traveling diagonally back (1&2), spring LF taking RF to 3rd rear aerial then extending to 4th int aerial (3&), repeat "spring-extend" contra (4&); repeat Bars 5-6 contra (5-8).

Bars 9-16: Full Break

I.e. Dance Bars 5-8 and then Bars 13-16 of Step 1.

Bars 17-32: Repeat Bars 1-16 contra.

Step 4

Bars 1-4 = Counts 1-8:

Pas de basque RF (1&2), hop brush beat LF (&3&4), Step LF to 2nd (5) and sweep RF across LF (6) to execute a pivot turn to L (7&8).

Bars 5-8: 1st Half Break (to R)

Bars 9-12: Dance Bars 9-12 of Step 1.

Bars 13-16: 2nd Half Break

Bars 17-28¹: Repeat Bars 1-12 contra.

Bars 29-32=Counts 1-8: Modified 2nd Half Break

Step RF to 4th int (1), close LF in 3rd rear releasing RF to 4th int aerial (2), balance springing RF (3), LF(4), chaine turns to R (5,6) (i.e. step RF with half-turn to R, step LF with half-turn to R), sweep RF in an arc through 2nd and behind LF to finish in a deep curtsy.

Notes

¹If the version on Bonnie Rideout's "Kindred Spirits" is used for the dance, then:

- a) the instrumental interlude between repetitions of the tune should be used by the dancer to walk gracefully to upstage left before beginning Step 3, and
- b) Bars 27-28 of Step 4 should be changed to a slow developpee omitting the rocks.

²This movement (3&4) might also be described as a bourree derriere.

³As in the 2nd Step of Seann Triubhas, this shuffle finishes with the inward movement when followed by a shake (as in Bar 4).

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