

## Original Choreography: European Dance

**Category Rules:** The category is designed for judging original dances created in European dance style. Demonstration of the dance is required but the performance skills will not be judged in this category. A written dance score with a notation key must be included with the documentation. The music used for the dance must be specified by name of the piece or by genre (ex: basse danse, etc.).

**Documentation** (0 to 4 points):

- 0: No documentation provided with entry.
- 1: Minimal information consisting of time, place and style.
- 2: As in #1, plus use of general sources; reliance on tertiary sources with perhaps one secondary source (ex: use of encyclopedia articles with a possible additional use of a book or article that refers to a period source.).
- 3: As in #2, plus a developed discussion making use of critical references; sources are largely secondary (ex: sources refer to period references; documentation discusses, compares, and contrasts the source's views).
- 4: As in #3, plus explanation of original research/experiment and relation of source material to it. Primary sources, if available, are emphasized (ex: sources used are from the appropriate period for the entry, such as period manuscripts, paintings or artifacts).

**Methods and Materials** (0 to 4 points):

- 0: Entry is completely modern with no relationship to period elements or practices.
- 1: Use of modern materials and methods to produce a performance that would not be accepted in period but either bears some relationship to an authentic work or which might be useful within SCA Culture (ex: Pavane performed to SCA culture music).
- 2: Use of **both** modern materials and methods to produce a work that looks, feels or sounds authentic to the time period it purports to be .
- 3: Use of **either** modern materials **or** methods to produce a work that looks, feels or sounds authentic (ex:).
- 4: Use of totally authentic materials and methods (ex: period presentation and language, period accompaniment, etc.).

**Scope** (0 to 6 points): Rank the ambition, **not** the success, of the entry on a scale of 0 to 6 points for **each** of the following elements and average for the total Scope score (Total of element scores divided by 6).

- Variety of steps, figures and sequences.
- Structure: how are the steps, figures and sequences arranged?
- Length of the dance, number of people required for performance and use of space.
- Expression of theme (ex: a pavane is less thematically complex than a masque) if appropriate.
- Type of dance notation used (ex: labanotation, terminology, period codes, such as Catalonian basse danse notation, etc.).
- Extent gone to ensure authenticity of the elements of the dance.

**Skill** (0 to 6 points): How well is the dance written? Rank the success of the entry on a scale of 0 to 6 points for **each** of the following elements and average for the total Skill score (Total of element scores divided by 5).

- Is the dance unwieldy to perform?
- Does the dance comply with period conventions for the chosen genre, including applicable principles of symmetry or other period system of proportion?
- Do the steps and sequences agree with the phrasing and style of the music?
- Technical points: timing, spacing, accuracy of steps written.
- Notation: clear, accurate, legible, easy to interpret and reproduce.

**Creativity** (0 to 4 points):

- 0: No variations of a standard dance.
- 1: Minor variations on a standard dance or standard steps strung together.
- 2: A greater number and an improved arrangement of variations and personal touches, but the standard dance is still noticeable.
- 3: A personal dance with a great deal of variation that is logical in manner to period.
- 4: A totally original dance, within logical period context; use of appropriate special elements in steps or figures, variations, mime, theme, interpretation and props.

**Judge's Observations** (0 to 6 points): Rank the entry as a whole. How well do all the separately judged parts fit together? The entry's overall effect is judged in this section. This is the only section of the Criteria where the judge may allow her/his personality, private opinions and personal preferences to influence scoring.

*Contributor:* Sion Andreas O Wynedd, 1982 & 1997.

*Editors:* Luciana della Ridolphi & Lyra d'Orleans 1982, Myrra de Blackwood, 1984; Myrra de Blackwood & Bronwyn ferch Gwyn ap Rhys, 1987; Thorhalla Carlsdottir af Bröberg, 1997; Gwyneth Banfhidhleir, 2003.