

## Original Choreography: Non-European Dance

**Category Rules:** The category includes any Non-European Dance from within the SCA Time Period (600 c.e. to 1600 c.e.). A demonstration of the dance and a written dance score, which consists of at minimum a listing of the steps. Source material for Non-European Dance is minimal. Leniency is recommended if it is evident that a sincere attempt to document the entry has been made.

### **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 reference; 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, descriptions of performances or artifacts). A detailed written dance score is provided.

### **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: mixes traditional and modern steps to form an SCA Culture Style performance).
- 2: Use of **both** modern material and methods to produce a work that looks, feels or sounds authentic to the time period it purports to be (ex: use of both period and non-period steps and styles to produce a work that gives the feeling of authenticity of the time period and/or place it purports to be such as a folk dance in authentic costume).
- 3: Use of **either** modern material **or** materials to produce a work that looks, feels or sounds authentic (ex: use of traditional style steps, details such as posture fluidity of movements and a clear spirit of the dance; what mood is the dance trying to convey?).
- 4: Use of totally authentic materials and methods (ex: special effort is taken to convey a completely authentic feeling choreography including costume, shoes, and music).

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

- Variety of steps and movements.
- Structure of steps (how are the steps arranged; spacing of the dancers, if a troupe performance; timing; transitions of one step into the next).
- Length and difficulty of the choreography: (difficulty of steps; if troupe piece, was it designed for a group, are there clear group elements or is it simply a solo piece done by several dancers?).
- Use of space: (a solo performance using all available stage area as opposed to a stationary performance, unless noted as such; if a troupe performance, is the space fully utilized and are members of the troupe interacting?).

- Dance notation: (if there is no standard form, was the notational style used clear?).
- Extent gone to ensure authenticity: (could include the incorporation of props, special clothing or other added elements).

**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, 6, 7 or 8).

- Musicality: (including the use of half or double times, accents and transitions).
- Isolations: (only the body parts that should move, do move).
- Accuracy of Steps: (is the written choreography being performed; timing; spacing; confidence).
- Transitions: (does one steps flow into another to create a whole?).
- Charisma: (facial expressions, interactions; stage presence).

*If applicable:*

- Use of props.
- Competency of self accompaniment.
- Level changes (ex: floor work).

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

- 0: No creativity shown, a stale mechanical performance.
- 1: Some attempt to look natural; basic steps strung together; minimal transitions; only basic steps used.
- 2: Better transitions; some awareness of musical phrasings; some step combinations developing; some interaction occurring between dancers.
- 3: Dancers are using innovative combinations; all elements are working together; dancers are caught up in the movements of the dance. If applicable, any prop use or self accompaniment is logical to the music and style.
- 4: As in #3, plus excellent use of transitions; interesting uses of space; musically interpretive; a rapport with the audience and each other.

**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.

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