

Dance: European

Category Rules: A written dance score, together with a key for notation, must be submitted with the documentation. It is suggested to include in the documentation a discussion of the period or context of the dance, the influence of costume, social class etc., on the performance. If the dance is an original translation or reconstruction from a primary sources, an explanation of the methods used should be part of the documentation. If live performers are not available to provide dance music, the entrant may use tape recorded music.

Note: Entries in this category should be performed in front of an audience to help assess audience interaction.

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: Bransle L'Officiale 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 (ex: a dance from Arbeau's Orchesography with a taped instrumental accompaniment).
- 3: Use of **either** modern materials **or** methods to produce a work that looks, feels or sounds authentic (ex: a dance from Arbeau's Orchesography with a taped instrumental accompaniment using period-style instruments).
- 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 5).

- Variety and difficulty of steps.
- Variety and difficulty of figures.
- Difficulty of speed and timing.
- Use of props, special clothing or other added elements if appropriate.
- Extent gone to ensure authenticity of the performance.

Skill (0 to 6 points): How well is the performance done? 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 4, 5, 6 or 7, if execution of figures, use of props or refinement of movement are elements of the performance).

- Knowledge of the dance (no errors, no need to call out steps).
- Timing.
- Spacing.
- Proper execution of steps, including precision and grace.

If applicable to the performance:

- Execution of figures.
- Use of props.
- Refinement of movement (as in Renaissance court dances).

Creativity (0 to 4 points):

- 0: No creativity shown, a stale mechanical performance.
- 1: Some attempt to look "natural," but nothing more.
- 2: Some effort to use posture, mannerisms and other elements to convey the spirit of the dance; appropriate social interaction between the dancers and (if appropriate) between the dancers and the audience.
- 3: Dancers are caught up in the spirit of the dance; they are acting as people of the period would have.
- 4: As in #3, plus original or unusual thematic overlay or new elements introduced in a logical and appropriate manner (ex. mime, props, masks, themes).

Judge's Observations (0 to 6 points): Rank the performance 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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