
La Danse de Cleves

This is an irregular basse danse, appearing in the Brussels Manuscript. It is a very unusual basse danse in that there are parts of the dance that do not simply go forwards (unlike every other basse danse except the basse danse mineur). There are also several possible reconstructions floating about, mostly due to the fact that part of the dance notation is missing from the manuscript. It is, however, fairly interesting and this is one of my favourites.

Part A Rv Br SS DDD SS D (retreating)

Part B The man does two singles forwards and a double backwards while the lady turns in place, as follows:

Man: SS Forwards
D Retreating
Lady: SS turning to the right (half turn).
D (completing the full turn to the right).

The roles are then reversed:

Man: SS turning to the right (half turn).
D (completing the full turn to the right).
Lady: SS Forwards
D Retreating

Part C Rv Br SS D forwards
D making a half turn in place
D forwards
SS
D making a half turn in place

Part D This is a repeat of Part B

Part E SS DDD Conge
