Mixed Bransles 1

Mixed Bransles

These dances form a five bransle set. They are usually done in the order Cassandra-Pinagay-Charlotte-LaGuerre-Aridan. Arbeau refers to these as the Mixed Bransles of Champagne, while in Lochac they are known as the Cut Bransles.

The dances are best learned in the order that they are shown, and the order that they are danced in the set. They increase with complexity through the set, and the Aridan can take quite some time to master.

Cassandra

Part I DL DR DL DR

Part II DL DR SL DR (repeat)

Pinagay

Part I DL KL DL KL KR KL

Part II DL DR

Charlotte

Part I DL KL KR DR (repeat)

Part II DL KL KR

SR KL KR KL SL KR KL KR

DR

This dance is more complicated than the first two, and takes a little bit more effort to learn. The key is to remember that each single is followed by three kicks, and the doubles are only ever followed by two kicks. Also, remember that after each single you do not change feet to start the kicks -- the best way to remember this is to not close the single completely, so that you are left with one foot slightly hanging in the air ready to start the kicks. After each double, you close the step and change feet as normal to begin the kicks.

2 Mixed Bransles

La Guerre

This dance is actually easier than it looks, if you have the stamina to keep up with it. The steps alternate left-right-left-right, just like a large number of other simple dances. Remembering that is often the key to remembering the entire dance.

Part I

DL DR DL DR DL DR DL DR

The introduction to this dance is twice as long as the introduction to any of the other dances in this set.

Part II

DL DR

SL SR DL

SR SL DR

SL KL KR KL (Feet Together) Capriole

The only tricky part about this dance is that the entire theme is done at double speed. Think quickly, and remember double-double/single-single-double/single-single-double/single-kick-kick-capriole.

To do a capriole, jump into the air, and waggle both feet around a bit (or ride a bicycle backwards is another way to do it). Land on the ground on both feet, with the left foot slightly forwards of the right foot.

Aridan

This dance is the hardest of the mixed bransles to learn. Remember that the introduction is quite short, and the theme is longer and repeats. Also remember that the theme is in three parts, a, b, and c.

Part I

DL KL KR KL (repeat)

Part II

a. b.	DL SR SL SR DL KL KR	Double left, three singles. Double left, two kicks.
c.	DR Step L Close KR Step R KL	Double right, step close kick step kick. Or: double, shuffle kick step kick.

The entire theme then repeats (parts a, b, and c).

The correct way to do (c) is as follows: Double Right; step left, close, step left, kick right; step right, close, kick left. The bit after the double is sort of a truncated double left with a kick right at the end; followed by a single right with a kick left.