Leiden Nuptials

A 32 bar strathspey for three couples in a four couple longwise set

Devised by Alan Ip

This dance was devised to celebrate the wedding of Arthur Govan and Marc Weide, which took place in October 2019 in Leiden, The Netherlands, where the couple lives. The formations used are intended to reflect the events of the day:

The Knot represents the wedding itself. The crossing up and down is to depict Arthur and Marc walking round the church after the ceremony to greet family and friends. The Promenade is the procession, led by pipes and drums, from the church, through the town centre to the reception venue. The last eight bars reflect the dancing and celebrations at the evening reception.

Bars	*Description*
1-8	1st and 2nd couples dance the Knot for 6 bars. 2nd couple continues to the side while 1st couple retains left-hand and turns to end facing up. 1st man on the left of 1st woman.
9-16	1st couple crosses up and casts off round the 2nd couple, crosses down giving left hand below the 3rd couple, casts up round the 3rd couple and ends in the centre of the set facing up. 2nd and 3rd couples step in above and below the 1st couple all in Promenade hold.
17-24	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance a modified Promenade: 17-20: All dance bars 1-4 of a normal Promenade and face down on the men's side. 21-22: 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples ¼ turn into a line on the men's side, as in an Allemande, dance into the middle and the men bring their partners in front. 23-24: All let go of hands. 1st couple retires to their own side while 2nd and 3rd couples pass their partners by the right shoulder to the opposite side. The order is 3 1 2 with 3rd and 2nd couples on the opposite side.
25-28	3rd woman and 2nd man (1st corner diagonal) cross by the right diagonally. 3rd and 1st women also 2nd and 1st men turn by the left on the side.
29-32	3rd man and 2nd woman (2nd corner diagonal) cross by the left diagonally. 3rd and 1st men also 2nd and 1st women turn by the right on the side, to end in the order 2 1 3.

Music

Suitable recording: A Trip to Holland (Ron Kerr Quintet: Book 19 - Music for 12 SCDs).