Piper’s Schottische

Scottish style round-the-room dance

Time: 4/4 strathspey, schottische, or puirt-a-beul.
Music: Port-a-Beul: Hara Hibhi or any good Highland Schottische tune.
Formation: Round the Room.
Starting position: In couples, facing partner, with right hands joined in handshake hold, with Man’s right shoulder towards line of direction (LOD). Start with the outside foot, i.e. man’s left foot and woman’s right foot. Description is for the man, while the woman dances the opposite.

1-2 Small hop RF and Tap LF in front RF (1); hop RF (2); small hop RF, tap LF behind RF (3); hop RF (4); Travelling slightly to the R. Small spring LF diagonally across RF (5), small spring RF (6); small spring LF diagonally across RF (7); small Hop LF (8).

3-4 Repeat bars 1-2 contra beginning with a small spring LF before tapping RF in front.

5-8 Performing a square using four “step-close-step-hop” movements (L R L R), partners change places, with women turning under man’s raised R arm, woman turns pulling left shoulder back (bar 5); move to man’s right (bar 6); repeat bars 5-6 (7-8).

9-12 Repeat bars 1-4.

13-14 Take waltz hold, dance one schottische step (step-close-step-hop) to man’s left, making ½ turn clockwise on count ’4’; repeat contra travelling along the LOD.

15-16 Dance four step-hop turns (LF, RF, LF, RF).

Join R hands and begin again.

Dance devised by Mats Melin, 2014. The inspiration for this couple dance comes from the pipe style strathspey’s and schottisches played and the puirt-a-beul’s sung in the Western Isles.