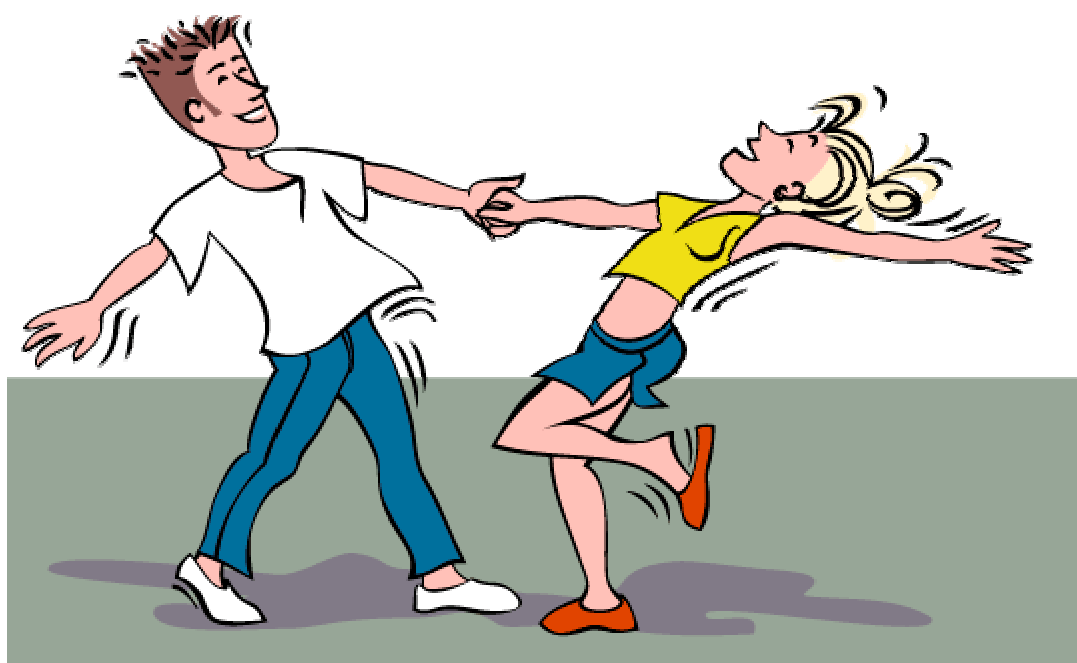


February 2003

Number **55**

The Dance Magazine

Magazine for ballroom dancers



The Dance Magazine

The Dance Magazine is a free magazine made for and made by ballroom dancers. You can read about different subjects all concerning ballroom dancing. We also give you the opportunity to put your add or messages in it. You can send them to me by e-mail.

The Dance Magazine is an edition from Fred Bolder's Ballroom Site

Url: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~fghb/ballroom.htm> or
<http://move.to/stijldansen>

e-mail: fghb@xs4all.nl

You can download this magazine as a Word-file for free.

The Dance Magazine also has its own domain.

url: <http://www.dansblad.nl>

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Spirit of the Dance: New Millennium

By: *Miranda*

In December 2000 we visited the “New Millennium” show from the dancing group Spirit of the Dance. It was a marvelous show with modern, also folkloristic, Irish music. The costumes were various and flashy, just like the light-show. I missed the straight lines and the synchronization. Not everything was synchronized and the lines were often a little bit of a mess. We also visited a show of Riverdance and compared to that show it was more modern and youthfull, but the dancers of Riverdance, danced a lot more synchronized and the choreography was much better. In my article I placed a review of a British newspaper. The author is right, but he/she would feel different about it when he/she had seen Riverdance. We are of course spoiled, because Michael Flatley (the best and most famous tapdancer) did the choreography and performance of this show.

What I liked most about the Millennium-show were the different styles of dances that were performed. It was not only tapdancing, but also flamenco, salsa, jazz and classical ballet.

Spirit of the Dance has over 200 dancers performing for the company, aged 18-25. They are either British or Irish and many of them are Irish dance champions. They have full time training schools in Dublin and Londen. The dancers have to be highly skilled in many forms of dance, including jazz, ballet, flamenco and Irish. This unique skill puts them on a higher level to almost any other dance troupe in the world. If Spirit of the Dance is looking to fill a particular role in the show, they may see 100 dancers or more before they find the one special person who has the right level on talent, performance skills and enthusiasm. A dancer at Spirit of the Dance should not only be a great dancer, but also have a good aura and mentally be very strong. Blood, sweat and tears are required if you want to keep up in this dancing group. By the enthusiasm and energy you can see the dancers love what they are doing. They have to practise every day to keep in shape. A good warming-up is of course, as in every sport, necessary. If they go on tour, their own medical team is present. The dancers are also taught to take care of them selves so they can keep in optimal shape.

The show New Millennium was made in 1996 and in 2000 six groups of Irish dancers danced all over the world to perform their show. Canada, Australia, Dubai, Hong Kong, Singapore, USA, Korea and large European cities were on the agenda. At the show they use a combination of tapdance, flamenco, classical ballet, red-hot salsa en jazz.

Review

“They sound like a runaway express train and their frenzied skill and military precision sends shivers down your spine. Not one Irish dance show steps out of line as the thunderous feet of the Irish International Dance Company perform as one, with a thrilling, foot-stamping excitement that leaves you gasping for breath.” (British newspaper)

Source: Program of Spirit of the Dance: New Millennium
Tv-show Emerald Shoes, 26 December 2000, Nederland 1
Article from the Drentse Courant from Wednesday 20 December 2000

More information: <http://www.spiritofthedance.com>

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By: Fred

You probably think, what is this for a strange topic. As you might know, I have a lot of hobbies, but of course I like ballroom dancing the most. Collecting stamps is also a hobby of me. There are years that I don't look at my stamps at all, but other years I am very busy collecting stamps. There are people that only collect stamps of the country where they live. Other people collect stamps of one topic, like birds or trains. You guess it, I collect everything. Some time ago, I decided to collect dance stamps. Not just ballroom dancing, but also ballet, folk dancing etc. They are hard to find, so you must have a lot of patience. They are often expensive, because you have to buy the whole series. Stamps with ballroom dancers are the hardest to get. Here are some nice dance stamps that I have collected already. I have included country and year, so it is easier for you to find the stamps.



The Netherlands 2000

There are only a few Dutch stamps with a dance. The shown stamp is from a Christmas series. These stamps are stickers, so I have a canceled stamp in my album. There is also a dance stamp in the Christmas series of 2003.

Germany (Berlin) 1983

Dancing is much more popular in Germany and you can see that on their stamps. On this stamp there is a competition dance couple. Isn't this nice, you can see immediately that it is a Latin dance. There are also many German stamps with folk dancing.



Sweden 1977

Sweden also has nice stamps with dancers.

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Sweden 2003

I think that this stamp is harder to get, because it is quite new. I got this stamp while I was on Holiday in Sweden. That's what I call luck. On this stamp they promote the new dance restaurant Kaos in Stockholm by modern art.

France 2002

I like this stamp very much! It shows a painting of Fernando Botero. I paid 2 euro for this beautiful stamp. Botero always paints funny fat people and he also has painted several fat dancers.

On the cover of number 49 of the dance magazine there is another painting of Botero. On the internet you can find a lot of paintings made by Botero. He even has painted a ballet dancer. Here it is.



Finland 1997

This stamp shows the Tango.

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The stamps below from South Africa are the most beautiful ones that I have discovered so far. Unfortunately I don't have them, but I ordered them at a stamp shop. I hope that I will receive them soon, but they told me that it probably take months. The issue date of the stamps is 23 July 2003. The size of a stamp is 48 x 30.45 mm. Check the site below for more information.
<http://www.sapo.co.za/philately/ballroom.htm>

Heavenly Athletes



Tango



Foxtrot



Rumba



Waltz



Salsa

Look at this site for more stamps.

<http://www.freestampcatalogue.com/index.htm>

Choose Topicals Chronological, Dance and Ballet

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Dance twirl

By: Fred

Dance twirl is a part of twirling in which you put the accent on the dancing. Twirling is a combination of majorette, gymnastic, ballet and rhythm gymnastics. Everyone once saw a parade with music and majorettes. The big difference between twirling and majorette is that they do walk in a parade on the street, but they give a show on a certain location. One thing you never miss at twirling is the stick, which is called the baton.

Twirling finds its origins in a fighting sport that was very popular on the Samoa islands. In America this sport developed itself. The original attributes they used were big wooden sticks, but they were replaced by steel with rubber ends. At the end of the 70s this sport found its way to Europe.

Just like in ballroom dancing, dance twirl is something you do with your whole body. For a show you have to come up with a routine for the dancing steps in combination with the baton-techniques that matches the music. A show usually takes about 5 minutes. The music to which they usually dance contains several short fragments that are mixed as one. This is to show the different styles; the same as in formation dancing. The audience gets a glimpse of every style in a very short moment. You can also participate in a twirl-competition. Twirling can be done solo, duo, as a team (5-9 persons) or as a group (10 persons or more). There are different categories for ages: Primary (0-8 years), Juvenile (9-11 years), Junior (12-15 years) en Senior (16 years and older). At the competitions you are judged on choreography, difficulties, technique and entertaining.

Because I wanted to know more about dance twirl than the information I could find on the internet, I send Marin an e-mail. Marin practises twirling for 14 years now and she also teaches in it. She even has her own website: <http://groups.msn.com/marinverhaar/>

Is dance twirl also for boys?

Yes, it is.

How many boys practise dance twirl in the Netherlands?

At the moment 5 boys practise dance twirl.

Does age matter?

There is no minimum. When you are 16 years old, you will join the seniors and you can go on as long as you wish. Usually people stop at the age of 24 with solo and with the age of 26 with the teams.

Can the music used for dance twirl be everything or does it have to be of a certain style?

You can use every kind of music. You have to look at the person practising the dance twirl to find out which music is most suitable. You should consider if this person needs a slow or a fast style, drama or comic and also the age is important. Music that is too 'adult' is not very wise to use for a teenager, because they can not participate that style yet.

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Does the music sound like a music corps or can it also be from the top 40?

That depends on how you define music corps?? Music from the groups that walk on the street is usually not used, but a lot of music by orchestras, for example from Disney is often used. You can also use top 40-music, although this is more common for majorettes. Very often not very well known songs from famous singers are used. At the moment intros from trance cds are very popular to bring it to a theme.

Can you please give me some examples of music that is used for dance twirl?

- Musical music is always very popular.
- Music from cirque de soleil
- Music from movies.
- Within.

You can practise majorette in several places, but is this the same for dance twirl?

Twirling is still less popular. There are more majorette-clubs than twirl clubs. In 'Noord-Holland' and 'Zuid-Holland' you will find the most twirl clubs and this is also where most competitions are held. If you want to practise twirling, you can always find a club nearby. You can also practise twirling at the majorettes, but there it is called majorette solo. The rules are practically the same.

How do you come up with the dancing steps? Are there certain rules for that?

Well... I usually use the things I learned myself. Ofcourse you also listen to the music and to your feeling.

With what kind of dance you can compare this dancing? Ballet for example or streetdance?

Several forms of dancing are used, that depends on the music. The seniors usually use a lot of modern dance and the teenagers usually use several basis steps in different styles.

How long should you practise dance twirl before you can give a show?

This can be done pretty soon, as soon as you can do the basics and your coordination is good. The first time is usually after 6 to 12 months. If someone has done more shows already this can be after a week, month or several months. You always have to ask yourself if you can control everything, so usually we train about 2 till 3 months on a show.

Links

Dutch Twirl Sport Bond

<http://www.ntsbn.nl/>

Cynthia's Twirl Site

<http://www.twirlen.tk/>

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Make your own Salsa cd

By: Fred



If you have a cd writer then you can make a nice ballroom dance cd. Below every song you can see the link where you can download the mp3 file. All the mp3 files are from <http://www.vitaminic.nl> so it is legal. Of course most of the songs are not famous, but they are very nice.

1	..... Gata Sin Luna	Leslie Mendez	Salsa.....	43
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/leslie_mendez			
2	..... Buscame Un Doctor.....	L.A. Carpool.....	Salsa.....	48
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/l.a._carpool2			
3	..... Contra viento y marea.....	Yousy Barbara.....	Salsa.....	44
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/yousy_barbara2			
4	..... A Mi Pueblo	Los Calientes Del Son	Salsa.....	46
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/los_calientes_del_son			
5	..... La cumbita	Don Gato & Su Combo Loco	Salsa.....	54
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/don_gato_and_su_combo_loco			
6	..... Amor.....	La Brava	Salsa.....	48
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/la_brava			
7	..... Guaracha caliente	Prisma.....	Salsa.....	52
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/prisma			
8	..... Me voy pa l havana.....	Barrio Alto.....	Salsa.....	47
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/barrio_alto			
9	..... Amanecer en Ti	La Brava	Rumba.....	28
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/la_brava			
10	... Segundo soplo	Black Chantilly.....	Cha Cha Cha.....	34
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/black_chantilly			
11	... La zona	Casablanca Benedicta.....	Cha Cha Cha.....	29
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/casablanca2			
12	... Cha cha cha de la banda	Black Chantilly.....	Cha Cha Cha.....	35
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/black_chantilly			
13	... Like They Say In L.A.....	L.A. Carpool.....	Cha Cha Cha.....	32
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/l.a._carpool2			
14	... Genio en la botella.....	Orquesta Suso and Familia	Merengue.....	65
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/orquesta_suso_and_familia			
15	... Mojate Bailando	Orquesta Suso and Familia	Merengue.....	72
	http://stage.vitaminic.nl/orquesta_suso_and_familia			

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Nice links

Aina & Jørgen's Photos

<http://www.orakel.ntnu.no/~jbs/bilder/>

Boogie Woogie pictures

The Thunderbirds

<http://www.thunderbirds.nl/>

Boogie Woogie club

Twinkle Toes

<http://www.twinkletoes.nl>

Dance sport articles

Capitan

<http://www.capitan.it/english/down0100.htm>

Ballroom MIDI, MP3 and PDF!! MIDI and PDF is nice for musicians and you can make a nice dance cd with the MP3s

Salsa & Merengue Society

<http://www.salsa-merengue.co.uk/VidTutor/merengue/tutprog.html>

A lot of Merengue dance steps!!

Figuren

<http://sterntaler.homeip.net/buck.html>

Dance video clips in MPG format

Percussion Clinic Adelaide

<http://users.senet.com.au/~jimmc/main/infolat.htm>

Latin instruments

MIDI music for ballroom dancers

<http://www.dancesport.it/scaricamidi.htm>

<http://www.labambolina.it/fisahit2/fisa2.htm>

<http://www.apriliana.it/descrizioni/wlestate.htm>

Dance Forums

<http://www.dance-forums.com/>

Discussions about dancing

Swing Info

<http://www.swinginfo.com/seeit.html>

Swing and Jitterbug pictures and video clips