

CEILI REEL

Ireland

Every year, as a part of the St. Patrick's Day festivities, a gathering known as the "Monster Ceili" (monster, in this context, means huge, or enormous), occurs on North Merrion Row, in Dublin, just south of the Trinity College campus. Tiffney Quin Mortensen, a student at Brigham Young University, learned this dance mixer on March 17, 2000, and named it in honor of the occasion. The dance variation shares steps and sequence elements with the well-known "Bonfire Dance." You will see the word "Ceili" spelled differently depending on the area you are visiting (i.e Ceilidh, Scotland.)

TRANSLATION: "Ceili" is a gathering; "reel" is a type of dance.

PRONUNCIATION: CAY-lee reel

FORMATION: Single circle, facing center, W on the R hand of M. Hands joined high in W-pos, "squared", with elbows touching.

MUSIC: CD, "Statewide, Las Vegas 2001- Folk Dance Classics", or any lively 48 bar reel.

STYLE: All steps are performed on the balls of the feet. Arms are held loosely at the sides.

METER: 4/4 PATTERN

Meas Cts

INTRODUCTION:

PART A: Advance and Retire

1 1-2 Skip-2-3's into the ctr hopping L and stepping R: Hop-step-close-step (cts & 1 & 2),
3-4 hop-step-close-step while simultaneously performing the "Eireann Abu" or the "Cry of the Irish" (cts & 3 & 4).

2 1-2 Backing out: hop-step-close-step (cts & 1 & 2),
3-4 hop-step-close-step (cts & 3 & 4).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

Part B: Sevens & Buzz Turns

1 1-2 To the R: hop L - cuts R quickly across L (ct 1), step R to R (ct &), step L behind R (ct 2), step R to R (ct &),
3-4 step L behind R (ct 3), step R (ct &), step L behind R (ct 4).
Counted: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-hold.

2 Repeat meas 1.

3-4 1-& Join R hands with partner, grasping partner's R elbow with L hand, couples buzz
turn CW: Step R across L (ct 1), step L to L (ct &),
2-8 Repeat, cts 1-2, 7 more times -W opens to face center, M on W's L.

Part C: Jump Step & Change Ptr

- 1 1-2 Jump Step: Bringing R leg up in front of L and springing from L (ct &), land on both—R in back of L (ct 1), step L in front (ct &), step R in back (ct 2),
- 3-4 Reverse.
- 2 1-4 Repeat meas 1—dropping hands and facing new partner, M to W's R
- 3-4 1-8 Joining hands with new partner: 4 Skip-2-3's CW—turning $1\frac{1}{2}$ (cts 1-8)
 Cpls opens to face center on the last step.

REPEAT ENTIRE PATTERN UNTIL MUSIC ENDS

Dance notes by Ed Austin, 5-01

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