

CITY OF LIGHT

Duple Improper Contra

A1 Long lines forward and back (8)

Dropping hands, pass through, passing partner by the right shoulder, then immediately turn to face partner*, rejoining hands in long lines, fall back to the opposite side of the set (8)

A2 Come forward, make a ring of four, circle left $\frac{3}{4}$ (8)

Swing partner (8)

B1 Ladies chain to neighbor (8)

Half hey: ladies pass right shoulders to start (8)

B2 Neighbor balance and swing (16)

*For those familiar with English country dancing, this move is like a quick “Hole in the Wall” type crossing. Or you can envision it as a half right shoulder round.

Notes:

This dance requires a lot of space between sets so dancers have room to fall back in A1. Dancers may need encouragement to really fall back. If they do so, they are rewarded with a wonderful sense of flight and the thrill of having your partner ebb away and then reemerge!

Written in April 2019 as a tribute to Paris after the tragic fire at the Notre Dame Cathedral.

About the Author:

Susan Kevra is a dance caller, musician, and singer who now makes her home in Nashville, TN. She travels across the country and occasionally around the globe to teach contra, square dances, English country dancing, and French dancing. She is also a professor of French and American Studies at Vanderbilt University, where she teaches a class entitled “American Social History through Dance.”

Photo by Kim Sherman.

