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The French Invade West Texas! *by Gary O'Berg*

A big thanks to Dyann Slosar, Dallas folk dancer, for passing this on to me. The VMC Summer Music and Dance Workshop: BalFolk 2016 will take place from Friday to Sunday, July 29-31 at the Texas Tech University School of Music in Lubbock, Texas. This will be a weekend of French, Belgian and English folk music and dance.

The cost for the entire weekend is \$65 for adults and \$45 for students with a valid ID. The Saturday dance concert is \$15.

The following text was taken directly from the email.

Dance Genres Information

From Wikipedia: Dances of bal folk are generally based on simple traditional choreographies, usually from France, Belgium, England or elsewhere in northern Europe, and have an easy base so everyone can easily start with it. Refined movements are not the main concern, improvisation is more common. Often, the music has modern influences. Music is played by live bands. The audience is on the dance floor, dancing to the live music.

Music Instructor



R.T. (Richard) Taylor is passionate about playing and teaching folks to play the Hurdy-Gurdy. For over 30 years R.T. has been playing, teaching and performing all over the world including Japan, North America, most of Western and Eastern Europe and has recorded and performed with the U.S band, French Creek and the French band UFO. His specialty is the folk dance music from France, Italy, Hungary and Galicia. His students range in age from 3 to 90 years old.

R.T. has studied with top players all over Europe and passes on that knowledge in an entertaining and logical way that helps you improve your artistic and technical skills, and reach your playing potential more quickly. Basic and more advanced techniques are taught using traditional common repertoire tunes and exercises that make practice more fun and effective.

Dance Instructors



Gyslaine Kirstetter began dancing as a child when her mother started to organize folk dance and music workshops at home in metropolitan Paris. Later, she developed her experience while traveling through France to participate in workshops and dance festivals. She was the principal folk dance instructor for the Maison de la Jeunesse et des Sports in Paris 20e in 2009-2010. In 2012 she came to Oklahoma to follow her husband. Her repertoire includes dances from Central France (bourrées 2 or 3 temps), Brittany (an dro, hanterdro, laride...), Southwestern France (7 sauts, fandango...) and couple dances (valse, schottische, mazurka...). She loves folk dances and finds them very festive, associating fun and elegance, and likes sharing them with others.



Lise Pingault is a member of the oldest folk dance music band in France (Les Gas du Berry, Nohant). She came in Oklahoma in summer 2015 to work at the University of Oklahoma. She grew up with the sound of vielle a roue and start playing the instrument at 10. During all the summer since she is a child, she participated to the dance show organized by the band with dancing bourrees, valse, scottisch, mazurka She also participated to the dance workshop organized by the international folk festival in Saint Chartier, France.

Check out the Facebook event for more information (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1566338400363137/>)

Here's the website for registration (<https://squareup.com/store/roots-music-institute>)

You can also call 1 (806) 438-5067 or email drchristopherjsmith@gmail.com for more information.

Calendar

July

Kentucky Dance Institute, Murray, Kentucky, July 17-23.
www.knoztiger.com

Calendar

July

Kentucky Dance Institute, Murray, Kentucky, July 17-23.

www.knobtiger.com

2016 Bulgarian Folk Music & Dance Seminar, Plovdiv, Bulgaria July 24-30.

<http://www.folkseminarplovdiv.net/>

BalFolk 2016, Texas Tech University School of Music, Lubbock, Texas, July 29-31.

<https://squareup.com/store/roots-music-institute>

November

Texas Camp, Bruceville, TX, November 23-27.

tifd.org/

Texas International Folk Dancers | board@tifd.org | <http://www.tifd.org>

SHARE YOUR STORIES:

The TIFD Newsletter is produced monthly. The deadline for story submission is the last Saturday of the month. Please submit your articles to editor@tifd.org.

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