

La farandole



PRESENTATION FILE

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<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c30m9brwb6l5tcn/AAcT462xytDzuFXMAKgDUQ9αα?dl=0>

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THE GROUPE



The group is very active during the year and takes part in numerous events in Switzerland and abroad.

In Switzerland it gets involved in the social life of its home town and carries out actions like the organisation of town events, dance introduction for teenagers or shows for kids. Each year the group actively participates by volunteering at the CIOFF International Folk Festival of Fribourg. Furthermore, it is appointed by companies and clubs all year long to liven up events with its dances, music and costumes.

Each year it takes part in folk festivals all around the world from small events in neighbouring countries to famous events overseas. Abroad « La Farandole de Courtepin » acts as an ambassador for Switzerland in order to share its traditions and culture.

The folk dance group « La Farandole de Courtepin » is composed of young dancers and musicians coming from the canton of Fribourg, Switzerland. The average age is 23 years old and the group includes:

- About thirty dancers
- A brass band of 10 musicians
- Alphorn players
- Flag swingers
- A choir



HISTORIC

The folk dance group « La Farandole » was founded in Courtepin in 1938 by Mrs. Hermine Renz. Initially it was meant for young girls of the home economics school who learned how to make a traditional costume. Then popular dances started being taught and men joined the group. In 1950 « La Farandole » took part in its first festival abroad in Nice, France. Over the years the dance repertoire expanded, the members multiplied, the performances became more frequent and the group made its name in the world of Swiss folk.

ITS AIMS AND VALUES

« La Farandole » aims to share in Switzerland and abroad its traditional dances and customs of the region of Fribourg. It seeks to familiarize young people with folk and traditions. The values of the group are youth, open-mindedness, sharing, commitment, respect of traditions and innovation.

LABEL CIOFF

The group is a member of CIOFF Switzerland which attests to its quality. The International Council of Organization of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts (CIOFF) is an international cultural Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in formal consultative relations with UNESCO and aims to safeguard, promote and diffuse traditional culture. It references folk festivals and groups in order to put them in contact and create synergies.

THE COSTUMES

The dance group wears the two local folk costumes of the Canton of Fribourg and a brand new traditional costume that was created in 2005.

The principal costume, called « The Old Territories », illustrates the bilingual tradition of the region of Fribourg. Women wear a long dress with a bib apron, gloves, a headress made of embroidered ribbons called « liron », typical of the French part of the region. Men wear semi-long black trousers, a red jacket and a white shirt with puffed sleeves, characteristic of the German part of the region.

With the second costume, La Farandole presents La Gruyère, a mountainous region of the South of Fribourg, world-famous for its cheese. Women wear the « Dzaquillon » and a straw hat. Men wear the « Brezon », the costume of the cowherders and cheese makers that is still worn today. It is a short-sleeved jacket decorated with edelweiss and blue trousers with a large embroidered belt. Moreover, a so-called « capet » is worn on the head, which is a kind of forage cap embroidered with black velvet.

The third costume, called the « Craftsman's Costume », was made for the stage and

was designed from historical patterns. This costume was made for the choreographic creation « The Miller of La Sonnaz », a regional legend from Courtepin. The women's dress reflects the traditional characteristics of the weekday costume of the German-speaking Lake-District: the striped gown, the edges finished with a bias, the laced bodice and the blouse with a round collar. The boys wear the famous « Hupper » of the region of Morat, as illustrated on several colored engravings of the 19th century. Its puffed trousers, held up by a small cord, and the double-breasted coat are made of linen and cotton.



DANCES

Our region, which is at the border of the French and the German cultures, is the source of the large diversity of our repertoire. Our dances belong to three expressions of different repertoires.



First of all, the repertoire of traditional expression is made up of ancient dances that people enjoyed during local balls. Among these dances one can cite « coraules », « polkas », « farandoles », « schotisch » and waltzes. « Coraules » are circle dances from the canton of Fribourg initially led by coryphaeus.



Then, the repertoire of elaborate expression, includes traditional dances that are adapted for the stage. The music composers are mainly from the French part of Switzerland and the principal choreographer and producer is Jo Baeryswyl. This repertoire has also dances from the Italian culture like « tarentelles ».

Finally, the repertoire of stylized expression presents theme dances created especially for the stage. In 1998, five dances were elaborated on the theme « The Miller of La Sonnaz » on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the group. In 2009, a dance called « Girls' Picking » was choreographed and it represents the tradition of the Spring Celebration Ball of La Sonnaz. For the 75th anniversary of « La Farandole » in 2013, the group staged a musical called « Coucou c'est l'heure » in collaboration with several art groups of Courtepin and four new dances were added to the repertoire. Finally, in 2014 a dance depicting the legend of the Dragon of the Gottéron Valley was choreographed in the context of the creations competition organized by the Federation of Costumes and Customs of the Canton of Fribourg.

ORCHESTRA

The band is made up of 10 to 12 musicians who are about 20 years old. Most of them are students at the cantonal music conservatoire of Fribourg. The playing formation is a « brass band » style with instruments such as clarinets, trumpets, cornets, horns, trombones, baritones, bass and percussion. This music band also plays sometimes for dance demonstrations or special events.



The band includes also three alphorn players. An alphorn is a typical instrument of Switzerland and is made of a long horn made out of spruce. It gives out a sound that can cover long distances with a strong echo in the valleys where it was traditionally played.





REPRESENTATION

The Farandole is a frequent guest to local, national and international events. Touring abroad, this group has performed in more than 60 festivals in European as well as non-European countries. The group has been the official group delegated by Switzerland to visit countries such as Greece, Turkey, Romania, Canada, Macau, South Korea, United States and Puerto Rico.



- 2017 Switzerland – TV show « Les coulisses de l'événement »
Switzerland – Regional music gathering of Cressier
France – Festival International de Folklore de Château-Gombert
Switzerland – CIOFF Festival Rencontres de Folklore Internationales de Fribourg
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
- 2016 Suisse – Spectacle annuel avec collaboration d'un groupe kosovar
Brésil – Représentation à Nova Friburgo
Suisse – Participation à la Bénichon du Pays de l'Auge
Suisse – Semaine fribourgeoise à Bâle organisée par Migros
- 2015 France – Festival Rencontres Folkloriques of Montpellier
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
Switzerland – Fête nationale à Wengen
Switzerland – Bénichon of la Gruyère organized by Famigros
Polska – Festival international CIOFF of Olsztyn
Switzerland – CIOFF Festival Rencontres de Folklore Internationales de Fribourg
Switzerland – Bénichon in Courtepin
- 2014 Switzerland – Introduction to folk dance at the Ecole de Culture Générale in Fribourg
Switzerland – National Day in Vernier, Geneva
Azores – CIOFF Festival Internacional de Folclore dos Açores
Switzerland – Creation competition for the 75th anniversary of the FFCC
Switzerland – Market of Fribourg
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
Switzerland – Fair of Avenches
Switzerland – Introduction to folk dance at the Midnight Games in Courtepin
- 2013 Switzerland – Bandstand of the national TV channel
Switzerland – Show for kids of Courtepin Elementary School
Mexico – CIOFF Festival Zacatecas del Folklor Internacional
Switzerland – Musical « Coucou c'est l'heure »
- 2012 Switzerland – CIOFF Festival Rencontres de Folklore Internationales de Fribourg
Switzerland – Wrestling festival in Cressier
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
Switzerland – Introduction to folk dance at the Midnight Games in Courtepin
- 2011 Cyprus – International Folk Festival of Xylotymbou
Switzerland – CIOFF Festival Rencontres de Folklore Internationales de Fribourg
Switzerland – Bénichon in Courtaman
Switzerland – Grape harvest faire in Erach
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
- 2010 Etats-Unis – CIOFF Folkmoot USA International Festival Waynesville, North Carolina
Switzerland – CIOFF Festival Rencontres de Folklore Internationales de Fribourg
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
- 2009 Switzerland – Portuguese festival in Fribourg
Bulgaria – CIOFF International Folk Festival Varna
Switzerland – Bénichon in Lentigny
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
- 2008 Switzerland – Fair in Yverdon-les-Bains
Canada – CIOFF Festival Le Mondial des Cultures de Drummondville
Switzerland – CIOFF Festival Rencontres de Folklore Internationales de Fribourg
Switzerland – Fribourger week in Basel organized by Migros
- 2007 Switzerland – Alphorn Festival in Nendaz
Portugal – Festival Festarte in Leça da Palmeira
- 2006 Switzerland – Alphorn Festival in Nendaz
France – Europe Celebration in Amilly
- 2005 Turquie - Séjour à Istanbul organisé par le CIOFF Turquie
Suisse – Emission Live à la télévision nationale suisse allemande
France – Fête de l'Europe à Amilly
Suisse – Fête cantonale des Costumes, concours FFCC
- 2004 France – CIOFF Festival international of Confolens
Switzerland – Federal Festival of Popular Music
Switzerland – 3 recordings at the national TV channel
- 2003 Mexique – CIOFF Festival Zacatecas del Folklor Internacional
Switzerland – Fair of Payerne
France – Festival in Audincourt
Switzerland – Rencontres de Folklore Internationales de Fribourg CIOFF
- 2002 Switzerland – Exhibition 02 in Yverdon
Switzerland – Festival of the Yodleurs
Brazil – CIOFF Festival Passo Fundo
Switzerland – Désalpe in Lignière

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS 1985 – 2001

- 2001 Switzerland – International Festival of Baar
Grèce – Nea Karvali CIOFF Festival
- 2000 Finlande – Kaustinen Folk Music CIOFF Festival
Argentine – Fextival Internacional CIOFF
- 1998 Spain – Cieza Festival CIOFF
South Korea – Kiongju / World Culture Expo
- 1997 Poland – Biala-Podlaska
- 1996 Canada – Drummondville and Chicoutimi Festival CIOFF
- 1994 Roumania – Bistriça-Nassaud
- 1993 Macao – Macao Festival
- 1992 Switzerland – Festival International de Zürich
- 1991 USA – 700^e anniversary of Switzerland in Washington
- 1990 Puerto Rico – Folk festival
- 1989 France – Festival Les Cultures du Monde CIOFF à Gannat
- 1988 France – International Folk Festival Nice
- 1986 Spain – Festival International de Folklore of Portugalete CIOFF
- 1985 France – Festival CIOFF Jeux Santons of Saintes