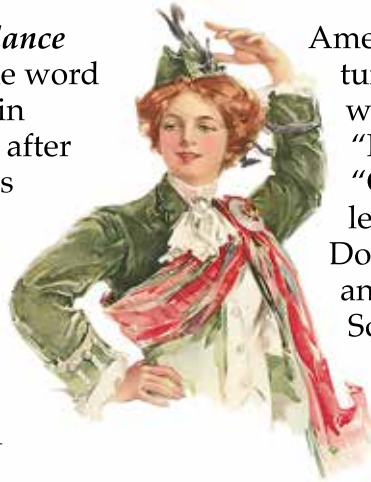


Styles & Genres



Tune Types: Schottisches

THE SCHOTTISCHE as a dance originated in Germany (the word is the German for "Scottish") in the mid-19th Century, shortly after the polka, with which it shares some vague similarities. Like the polka, it enjoyed great popularity all over Europe, and spread to the Americas too. In Norway it's known as a *rheinlander*, in Finland a *jenkka*, and in Spanish South



America as the *chotis*. In Scottish tune collections, schottisches were sometimes divided into "Highland Schottisches" and "German Schottisches". This led to dances and tunes in Donegal being called *Highlands* and *Germans*. The Highland Schottische is a combination of the common schottische and the old reel.

Rhythm

It's my opinion that the dance was called a schottische because it incorporated elements of Scottish dance and tunes; in particular the "snap" - one of the signature characteristics of Scots music. The tunes used for schottisches are in an irregular rhythm: in a pair of notes the first is lengthened slightly, and the

second is shortened. A snap is when that is reversed, and the first of the pair is shortened, the second lengthened.

IRREGULAR RHYTHM

Normal: The Snap:

Although strathspeys can be used for schottisches, in my experience I've noticed that schottisches don't seem to as many snaps as strathspeys. Also, many Gaelic *puirt-a-beul* tunes are used for a Highland Schottische.

Castles in the Air (traditional)

schottische

Chords: G, D, G, Bm, C, G, Am, C, G, D, G, G, D7, G, C, G, Am, Bm, C, G, Am, C, G, D, G, Bm, C, G, G, D7, G

Schottisches