

Les Enfants du Morvan

Press-book

Art and Popular
Traditions Group from Dijon
(Burgundy - France)

Shows / Folkloric entertainment / Traditional concerts
Dances courses / Folk balls



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General Presentation

The Morvan is situated right in the middle of **Burgundy**, at the extreme North East of the Massif Central. It is reputed to be a bleak region because there are many mountains and forests. Nowadays, the Morvan's touristic activity is widely developed but at the end of the XIXth century many of its inhabitants had to find a job in the capital of Burgundy.

This is why, in 1899 an association with a very evocative name was created in **Dijon**:

« The Morvan's natives' fraternal support group »

These people were at that time considered as exiles: they had to be welcomed, accommodated and helped to be able to integrate into the city where they were to live from then on. But in 1946, very soon after the end of the Second World War, the families from the Morvan felt they needed to promote the traditions and arts they were still faithfully attached to. So, they created a folkloric group in order to honour and make known the popular culture of their geographical area:

« Les Enfants du Morvan »
were born!



AFFILIATIONS :

- The Departmental Federation of Burgundy Folkloric Groups (in Côte d'Or)
- The Union of Groups and Fiddlers of the Morvan (UGMM)
- The Popular Traditions National Union Groups (UNGTP)
- Associated members of Dijon's "Fêtes de la Vigne" Festival

Dances

The strenuous work of many of “Les Enfants du Morvan”'s members has enabled to collect **nearly 80 dances**.

Our repertoire consists of collected dances from the **XIXth century** as well as more recently choreographed dances.

Some dances have a **precise meaning** which we try to transmit through their presentation. Others are choreographed in order to **reinforce the message** we want to convey in our shows.

As concerns the collected dances we present on stage, we try to alter the original choreography as little as possible.

There are many “**bourrées**” in our repertoire: this lively dance can be considered as the most typical dance from the Morvan. Moreover, the “bourrée” is the most popular dance at balls. We also dance “**branles**”, **polkas**, **scottishes**, **mazurkas** and **waltzes**.

Our work on the dances consists not only in staging our repertoire but also in handing the Morvan traditions down to future generations through dance lessons, balls and in schools too.



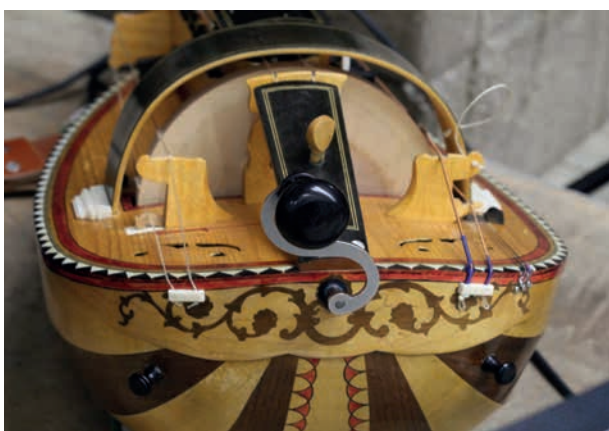
Music

Les Enfants du Morvan's orchestra is composed of traditional instruments only: **hurdy-gurdies, bagpipes, diatonic accordions and violins.**

Thanks to a rich and diverse collection of scores, our musicians can interpret a repertoire of **nearly 500 pieces of traditional music from the Morvan.**

The orchestra of "Les Enfants du Morvan" can adapt their talents to all types of events, such as **leading a dance, performing at a concert or playing at a folk ball.** They are always eager to share the music so dear to their hearts.

After recording a CD in 2016 « **Hier... aujourd'hui** » the musicians go on working in the "traditional" way. This means that when they perform they often introduce pieces in "modal" with only the most ancient instruments performing like the bagpipes and the hurdy-gurdies. They are always careful to stick to the traditions of the past when musicians used to play alone or in pairs, in keys people are not used to listening to nowadays.



Shows

The group offers several types of shows:

OUTDOOR SHOWS (parades, village festivals, etc.), the values of the group can be shared not only thanks to the dances and music but also thanks to each member's knowledge of the costumes and the traditions from the Morvan... The group is keen to **share the customs and traditions of their region with as many people as possible.**



INDOOR SHOWS, characteristic moments of the Morvan **people's everyday life** in the XIXth century are recreated, such as a wedding, a carnival or conscription.

These indoor shows are composed of short plays and tales with a real scenario: **Les Sabots Endiablés** (a Christmas night tale), **Le Hussard Noir** (the life of a primary school teacher when he arrived in a Morvan village), **Le Taicot** (the upheaval caused by the arrival of the railway in the XIXth century to a Morvan village), **Maudit Grimoire** (a tale showing the evolution of dance in the Morvan).

Thanks to an original scenario, these shows allow us to illustrate **many customs** not only through songs, dances and music, but also through the scenic expression of the dancers and the words of a storyteller.



STAGE SHOWS, special care is given to the **choreography**, and in order to deliver our message, the dances appear the one after the other in a constant flow of music and movement only (**no spoken word**).

This type of show was rewarded by the **prize for the Valorisation of Folkloric Heritage** at the Fêtes de la Vigne Festival in 2007, thanks to a sequence on the theme of the bourrée (*the video can be viewed on our internet site*).

Our latest creations are **the Galvachère** and **the offbeat Suite**. We successfully performed them at the FOLKOLOR Festival in Montréjeau in 2015 and at the «Fêtes de la Vigne in Dijon in 2016.

The strength of the group is to be able to **adapt both to the stage and to public** entertainment with always the same intention: sharing with the audience the happiness of dancing and playing their music so that people go home with the feeling they have had a good time while getting to know the long-gone traditions of the Morvan.



Costumes

For a folkloric group, the regard for authenticity is directly linked to the care given to the **reconstitution** of the costumes and the way they are worn.

Thanks to long research, the group has been able to reconstitute the costumes of **three XIXth century periods**.

Research is still going on and **the group's heritage is getting richer and richer**: a nurse's costume and several costumes of floteurs (men leading the wood on rivers) have been recently reconstituted, and the work continues.

A **headdress workshop** has been created to enable girls to make their own headdresses, so that they can have several models from different periods at their disposal



AROUND 1800

Boys wear a gaiter costume and the girls a short skirt).

Traces of the boys' costume, however, can be found as soon as the first half of the XVIIIth century.



IN THE 1840'S

A striped pattern for the men's waistcoat and the whole of the girls' costume.



AROUND 1900

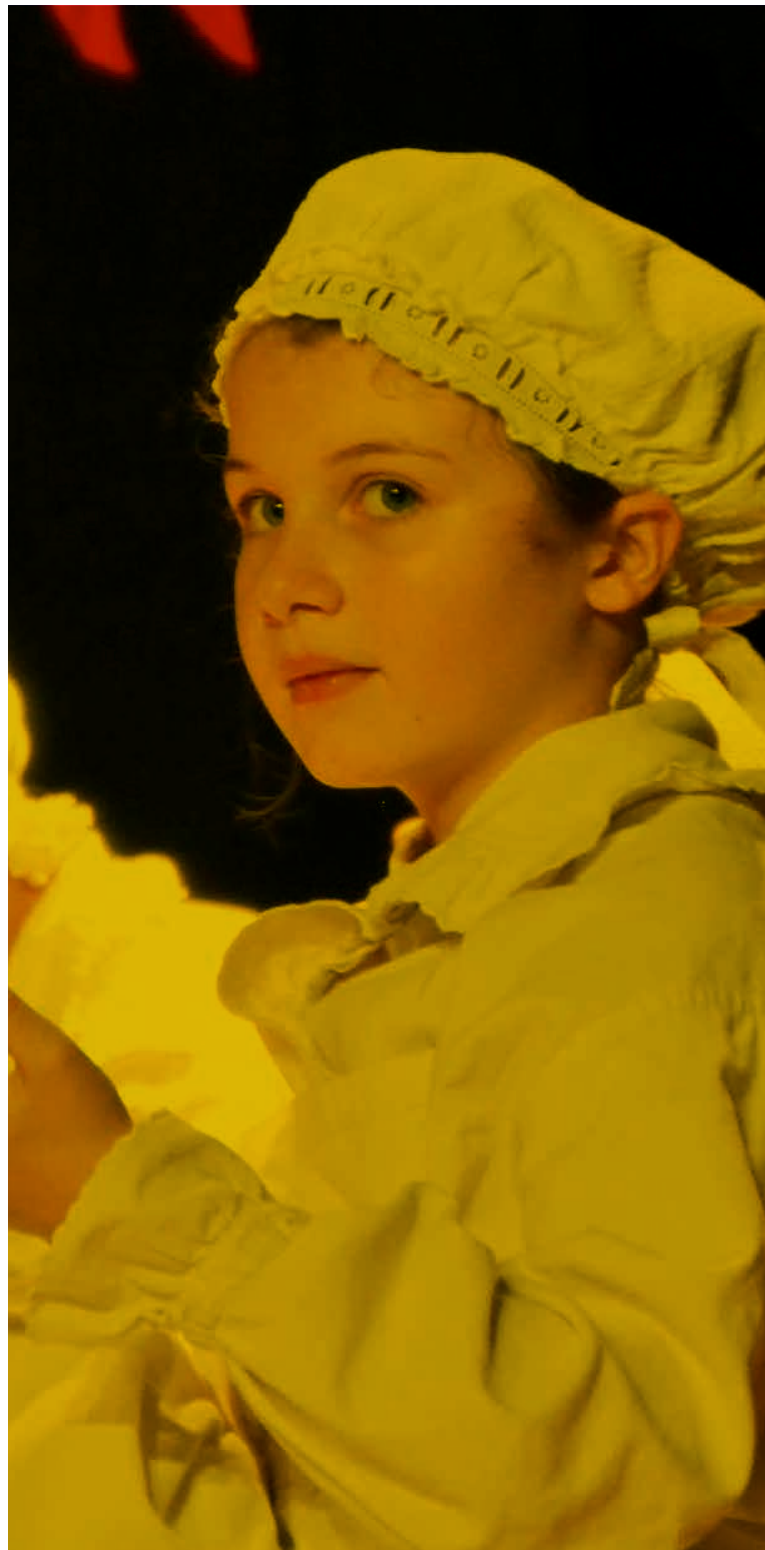
A smock or flannel belt for men, a long skirt or dress for women (called long costume).

Lai Piranvôle

Research on dances, music and costumes has led the group to rediscover many things about the everyday life in the Morvan, such as **children's games**.

The group, then, decided to enlarge its activity by creating **a children's section names Lai Piranvôle**. It means "ladybird" in Morvan provincial dialect.

Lai Piranvôle performs **songs, dances, rhymes and games** dating right back to the XIXth century. The children's costume is not a miniature reproduction of the adults' one but **the exact clothes the children used to wear** in the XIXth century.



Folk Ball

The aim of a folkloric group is not only to help people discover the folklore of their region but also the way its inhabitants used to entertain themselves with music and dances. This is why the group decided to give folk ball: they play tunes from Morvan and other regions, but this time without any costume or show. The aim is that anybody can **share the dancing** with members of the group.

Moreover, it is a way to show **musical evolution** of folkloric music: even if the musical repertoire of the Morvan is wide, we do not limit ourselves to it as we also play music from other areas, like the Bourbonnais for the duple time bourree, or music from other countries (these pieces of music are brought back from international festivals).

In the same way, our musicians are keen to **compose new pieces**, in the traditional mode. This enhances even more our message: transmitting traditions is something alive and modern.



References

Les Enfants du Morvan have participated in numerous festivals in France and abroad.

- 1971 Hungary:** Balaton Lake - 1st prize of honour - Parade: 3rd prize
- 1972 Austria:** Salzburg
- 1972 Bulgaria:** Gold medal, 1st prize at the Burgas International Festival
- 1973 Germany:** Lorrach
- 1973 Switzerland:** Martigny
- 1973 Yugoslavia:** Skopje International Festival
- 1973 Italy:** Montagnana: Silver medal
- 1976 Greece:** Lefkas
- 1978 Germany:** Schwabenheim - Berlin (international festivals)
- 1978 Switzerland:** Fribourg
- 1979 Switzerland:** Rhône Lausanne, Martigny and Bâle Festivals
- 1979 Italy:** Montagnana: Gold medal - Gorizia : Silver medal
- 1980 Yugoslavia:** Sarajevo - Mostar
- 1981 Finland:** Mantsala - Vantaa - Turku - Lohja - Tampere - Helsinki
- 1982 Belgium:** Saint Hubert - Bruges
- 1986 U.S.A.:** North Carolina - Folkmoot Festival
- 1987 Spain:** Jaca
- 1988 Israel:** Natania - Asquelon - Tel Aviv - Naharriya - Jerusalem
- 1990 Turkey:** Istanbul - Corum
- 1991 Italy:** Collina - Sabaudia Festival
- 1994 Canada:** Drummondville - Montréal
- 1997 Portugal:** Barcelinhos
- 1999 Poland:** Zakopane: Silver axe
- 2000 Greece:** Lefkas
- 2004 Canada:** Drummondville - Montréal
<http://www.mondialdescultures.com>
- 2005 Spain:** Jaca
<http://www.jaca.es/festival>
- 2009 Syria:** Bosra
- 2010 U.S.A.:** Caroline du Nord - Folkmoot Festival - <http://www.folkmootusa.org>
- 2011 Spain:** Segovia - Burgos
<http://www.bicomunicacion.com/folclore>
- 2012 Poland:** Zamo
<http://zamojszczyzna.com.pl/eurofolk.html>
- 2013 Indonesia:** Bornéo - Festival International ERAU du folklore et de l'art (EIFAF)
- 2014 Turkey:** Bursa
<http://www.altinkaragoz.com.tr/>
- 2015 France:** Folkolor - Festival Mondial de Monréjeau
<http://www.festivalmonrejeau.fr/>
- 2016 France:** Fêtes de la Vigne - Festival International de Dijon
<http://www.fetesdelavigne.org>

CIOFF® Label

CIOFF® - International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts - is an official partner of UNESCO, accredited to UNESCO PCI Committee. Since 1970, CIOFF® works for **safeguarding, promotion and diffusion of traditional culture and folklore.**

Pressing requests of foreign festivals for greeting high quality groups has led French section of CIOFF® to propose the creation of an entity inside French CIOFF®, gathering renowned quality groups.

Created in 2005, **CIOFF® label guarantees its groups a high artistic level, a capacity to re-**

present traditions of its region, and a capacity to share values of tolerance that promote friendship and peace. At present, about fifteen groups are labeled.

In april 2011, les Enfants du Morvan became a « **CIOFF® labeled group** ».

Getting CIOFF® labeled for les Enfants du Morvan certainly proves **the quality of their shows, and that the group is open-minded and friendly.**

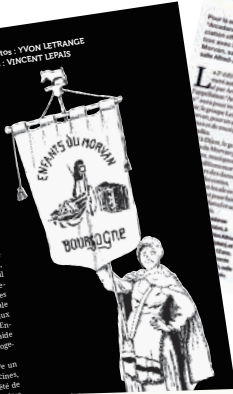


Press

dossier DANSE TRAD & FOLKLORE

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Illustrations : VINCENT LEPAIS

Les Enfants du Morvan



Il devrait dire les petits enfants des enfants des enfants... du Morvan. Car cette association a été créée en 1960. A la fin du 19e siècle, les Morvandiaux n'avaient guère de travail hors du territoire, fin des salaires locaux, développement du monde industriel... Entièrement dans la région. Paris bien sûr, mais également Lyon, la capitale de leur région. Avec un peu comme les Morvandiaux de Paris, qui ont créé en 1899 « l'Appui Français des Enfants du Morvan » qui est resté depuis à une estrade entre compagnie et les aidant à trouver travail, logement, etc.



TALANT

Le bal des Enfants du Morvan remporte un franc succès

Le week-end dernier, les Enfants du Morvan, groupe d'arts et traditions populaires de Dijon, ont invité le complexe Eyoquem de Talant pour un grand bal folk. Plus d'une centaine de danseurs ont répondu présent et, pendant quatre heures, la piste n'a pas désempalé au rythme des polkas, mazurkas, bourrées et autres valse.

Symboliquement, ce sont les Enfants du Morvan qui ont ouvert la soirée. Quinze musiciens se penne pour lancer les premiers morceaux. Le orchestre du groupe ne prenne la main pour deux heures de musique. Romain Marchand et Jonas Thin, alias les Cécilia Cécilia, ont pris la suite jusque tard dans la nuit.



Les Enfants du Morvan à Talant, le week-end.

AGGLOMÉRATION DIJONNAISE

Un p'tit bal plébiscité

Quatre cent trente-cinq enfants ont répondu, mardi, à l'appel de l'Usep 21. Les élèves du primaire ont participé à un bal folklorique organisé par les Enfants du Morvan. Le thème de la soirée était « Les Enfants du Morvan ». Les enfants ont dansé et joué de la musique. Le bal a été un grand succès.



FOLKLORE

Les Morvandiaux aux States

Le jeu de scène enjoués des Enfants du Morvan sauront ravir les Américains étrangers invités. Photo L&P.

Le groupe folklorique des Enfants du Morvan a participé à un festival aux États-Unis. Les enfants ont présenté des danses et des jeux de scène. Le festival a été un grand succès.



FOLKLORE

Les Enfants du Morvan de retour d'Indonésie

Tenggarong, une ville de 70 000 habitants au cœur de l'île de Bornéo, en Indonésie, c'est là que Les Enfants du Morvan, groupe d'arts et traditions populaires de Dijon, ont participé à un festival international folklorique. Le festival a été un grand succès.



FOLKLORE

Francis dan Taiwan Bikin Lupa Memori Runtuhnya Jembatan

Menarik Aksi Peserta EIFAF di Tenggarong (2) Francis dan Taiwan Bikin Lupa Memori Runtuhnya Jembatan



Publié le 28/07/2019 1 photo

AGGLOMÉRATION DIJONNAISE

Les écoliers dans la danse

Talant. L'Usep Côte-d'Or a organisé un P'tit bal du complexe sportif Marie-Thérèse-Eyo...

AGGLOMÉRATION

Les Enfants du Morvan en guest

Le folklore bourguignon prend un coup de jeune

Le folklore bourguignon prend un coup de jeune. Les Enfants du Morvan ont participé à un festival de folklore bourguignon. Le festival a été un grand succès.



CHENOËVE

Trois cents personnes réunies autour des Enfants du Morvan

La soirée dîner spectacle des Enfants du Morvan, qui a eu lieu à la salle des fêtes, a été un succès. Trois cents personnes ont été réunies autour des Enfants du Morvan.



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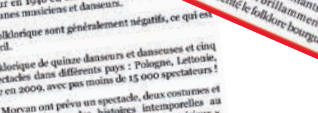
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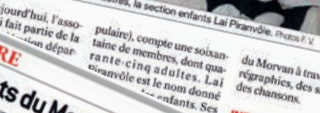
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FOLKLORE

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Menarik Aksi Peserta EIFAF di Tenggarong (2) Francis dan Taiwan Bikin Lupa Memori Runtuhnya Jembatan



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Dijon's Festival

**FÊTES DE
LA VIGNE**
DU 23 AU 28 AOÛT 2016
DIJON
ORGANISATION TRAD'CULTURE
PROGRAMME 2016



1946 : Dijon's International "Fêtes de la Vigne" Festival, festival accredited CIOFF, is the same age as our group: **70 YEARS OLD!**

Les Enfants du Morvan have always participated in this festival by the individual involvement of its members in the organization as well as by **the collective one during the festivities.**

Every year, from the end of August till the beginning of September, les Enfants du Morvan have the pleasure of sharing the same passion for folklore **with groups coming from all over the world.**

New acquaintances, new exchanges, new contacts can once more be made so that les Enfants du Morvan can take their turn to travel and export their dear Morvan culture throughout the world.



Partners



FINANCIAL PARTNERS:



Ville de Dijon



Communauté Urbaine
du Grand Dijon



Conseil Départemental
de la Côte d'Or



Crédit Mutuel Enseignant

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