The Early Dance Consort specialises in early European court dance, bringing to life dances from the Renaissance to 18th century & beyond.

Directed by Fiona Garlick and John Barnard, the Consort has delighted Australian audiences with its costumed performances, appearing with instrumental ensembles including the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong, Ensemble of the Golden Age, Adelaide Baroque, The Musicke, Pastance, The Renaissance Players, Sydney Conservatorium of Music Early Music Ensemble, and The Marais Project.

The Consort also offers demonstrations, lectures, and master-classes on various aspects of early dance and related topics for arts and educational institutions around Australia, and overseas. Presentations are based on Fiona's extensive research into the surviving records for early court dance and music, and also include choreography and movement for period operas, ballets, plays and concert productions.



Evening Classes in Court Dance



Take an elegant step into the world of courtly dance. Sample the variety of ballroom and stage dances from Renaissance to Baroque & beyond.

Our evening classes cover a range of dances from the wealth of dance sources. They are a healthy, enjoyable, and informative experience for anyone with a passion for early music, period drama, social history and our European dance heritage.

Beginners' Classes focus on dances such as the Pavane, Galliard, Allemande and Branle from the courts of England, France, and Italy in the late 16th century, and on English country dances from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

During the year, students will be introduced to the noble baroque dance style from the court of Louis XIV of France. Epitomised by such dances as the Minuet, Gavotte and Sarabande, it laid the foundations for classical ballet technique.

No partner or previous experience required.

Classes begin with a warm-up and gentle stretch, and the dances provide both physical and mental exercise ranging from gentle to moderately vigorous, in a relaxed and friendly environment.

Advanced Classes are by invitation, for students either with training in ballet or modern dance disciplines, or at least two years' experience in early dance, including Italian Renaissance and French baroque. Students may be invited to participate in Early Dance Consort performances.

Costumed Balls held from time to time at the end of term are occasions to dress up and display the dances learned, and to invite friends & family to come along and join in some dancing for all.

Evening Classes in Court Dancing 2019

Venue: Upper Hall, Presbyterian School Hall 181 Blues Point Road, North Sydney

(close to buses & trains at North Sydney Station— Hall is on the left-hand-side as you go down Blues Point Road, just before Lavender Street intersection)

> Times: Thursday evenings Beginners' Class: 6.15 pm - 7.45 pm Advanced Class: 7.45-9.00 pm

Term 1: 10 weeks—31 January to 4 April

Term 2: 10 weeks— 2 May to 4 July

Term 3: 10 weeks — 25 July to 26 September

Term 4: 10 weeks — 17 October to 19 December * Christmas Party ~ 6.30-9.00 pm—All welcome

New Students

Please phone or email with name & details to confirm your place in the class

Fees: See Table for details. Payable per term by cash, cheque/money order to "The Early Dance Consort" or Bank Transfer to BSB 112-879 Acc 041 197 567 (with your name)

What to Wear (see website for more information)

Loose comfortable clothing

Light, flexible shoes with straps/laces:
- flat heels for Renaissance dance (e.g. ballet flats)
- low heels (1-4cm) for Baroque dance
(e.g. jazz, character or Grecian/teaching shoes)

OR jazz shoes for both (e.g. Bloch)
Please avoid rubber soles

Enrolment Initial enrolment Loyalty/Pre-pay Couple Student Trial Class Single Class
