The Female Saylor
(England)

Pat Shaw reconstructed this dance from John Essex’s 1706 translation of Feuillet’s “La Matelotte.” The tune is the one to which William Morris wrote the well-known carol, “Masters in This Hall.” It was presented by Marianne Taylor at the 1999 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.


Formation: Longways set: Dancers in two parallel lines with partners facing each other. M have L shldrs twd the head of the hall (usually where the music is located).

Steps and Styling: Light walking/running steps (2 per meas). Commonly beg with R (not required).

Back-to-Back: Dancers move fwd passing R shldrs and move bkwd to place passing L shldrs.

Cast: Dancer turns outward (away) from set or ptr in order to move to a designated place.

Half Figure-8: Cpl 1 cross in between Cpl 2, W crossing first, and go around opp person to end in ptr’s pos.

R-hand Turn: Joined R hands are held at shldr level, handshake hold, arms held easily extended. Turn CW by walking fwd, 2 steps per meas.

Two-hand Turn: Both hands joined and held at shldr level, M hands are on the bottom supporting W hands on top, arms held easily extended. Turn CW, walking 2 steps per meas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>6/8 meter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chord + 1 note</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION. No action.</td>
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DANCE

A1 1-4 Cpl 1 lead up through the cpl above (at the top, dance through an imaginary cpl) and cast down the outside to place.

5-8 Cpl 1 lead down through the cpl below and cast up the outside to place.
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A2  9-12  Cpl 1 Half Figure-8 through Cpl 2.
     13-16  Cpl 1 R-hand Turn to finish facing neighbor.

B1  17-20  All dance Back-to-Back with neighbor.
     21-24  All Two-Hand Turn neighbor once around.

B2  25-28  All dance Back-to-Back with ptr.
     29-32  Cpl 1 Two-Hand Turn 1/2 and cast down into 2nd place
            *while*
            Cpl 2 Two-Hand Turn once around, moving up into 1st place.

Repeat with a new cpl.