Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., August 2025
Dance Research Committee: Loui Tucker, Lothar Narins

Avant Deux en Ronde

(France)

This dance comes from the Vendee/Poiton area of France and is also known as Rond Avant Deux. It was presented at Stockton Folk Dance Camp in 2025 by Roo Lester, who learned this dance from Leslie Barrat at the Argonne International Folk Dance in 2023. There are a number of tunes for this dance. Leslie used the tune listed below, as did Roo. This dance is not complex, but it is very satisfying.

Music: 2/4 meter "Entrez la belle en vigne." *Chaï Live* Double CD, CD 2, Band 1. Unfortunately, this 10+ year old CD is no longer available. However, a search for "Entrez la belle en vigne mp3" will provide a link to an alternative recording by Oktobre. In addition, Tom Pixton made his own recording for this dance, which you can get from him at tom@pixton.org.

Video: A search on YouTube for "rond avant deux" will yield at least two videos.

Formation: Circle of dancers, facing center, hands joined down in V-position.

Steps & Styling: In Fig I, arms swing forward when stepping forward L and back when stepping back R. In Fig II, the arms continue to swing forward and back but are not in sync with the footwork.

When lots of people are dancing, space between dancers is often close. With live music, dancers echo the calls from the lead singer.

Meas		2/4 meter PATTERN
4		INTRODUCTION. No action. Start with the vocals.
	I.	FIGURE I. STEP-TOGETHER MOVING CW.
1		Step L to L (ct 1); step R next to L (ct 2).
2-12		Repeat meas 1 eleven times.
	II.	FIGURE II. AVANT DEUX – MOVING IN AND OUT.
1		Beg L, three steps fwd (cts 1, &, 2).
2		Step R fwd (ct 1); lift L fwd (ct 2).
3		Beg L, three steps bkwd (cts 1, &, 2).
4		Step R bkwd (ct 1); lift L fwd (ct 2).
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4.

Sequence: Repeat as noted above until the end of the music.

Lyrics and translation

Entrez la belle en vigne	Come into the vineyard, beautiful one,
Quand les pampres sont grands	When the grapevines are tall
Je n'entre point en vigne quand il n'y a rien dedans	I would never enter a vineyard when there's nothing in it.
Gué gué je vous aime la belle	Ford, ford, I love you beautiful one *
Gai gai je vous aime tant	Ford, ford, I love you so much *
Il y a des orties et moi qui les craint tant	There are nettles and I'm so afraid of them
Entrez, entrez, la belle, on vous donnera des gants	Come in, come in, lovely one, we'll give you some gloves
Mon père n'a point de fille qui reçoive de présent	My father doesn't have a daughter who would accept gifts
Elle en recevrait peut-être d'un cœur tendre et constant	Maybe she'd accept them from a tender and constant heart
Un bel anneau d'or qu'on donne ens'y mariant	A beautiful gold ring which is given when marrying

* Ford, as in "cross a stream."