

Philippe Callens

Philippe Callens is a dance teacher, composer, researcher and dancer par excellence. He lives in Antwerp and wrote a fun and easy New England style Square dance entitled Cultural Capital Quadrille as Antwerp was given that title in 1993. It features a tunnel representing the famous St Anna's Tunnel – or Underpass, as the locals like to refer to it, which was opened in 1933. Philippe had a dedicated group of English dancers in Belgium and Holland.

You can get a flavour of Philippe's versatility by looking at the book titles he published.

1. 1996: From a Belgian Yankee Caller and dedicated to Ted Sanella a friend and mentor. Philippe spent several periods in his life as a resident in USA and teaching and calling over there by invitation.
2. 1997: Both Sides of the Atlantic written in English and Flemish, which is a collection of English and American country dances, written or researched by various dance writers and some by himself.
3. Next came a series of English Country dances written by Philippe himself
 - Continental Capers 1999, including The Astonished Archaeologist and Gold for the Mahieus
 - Belgian Boutades 2002 some written by Philippe: An Early Frost and Hortonia others are interpretations of historical dances: Volpony.
 - Antwerp Antics: 2004 which includes Westward Bound the 2 couples face 2 couples dance to the waltz tune Waiting for Fish
 - Seasons of Invention 2011 which includes Autumn in Amherst and Spring in Sebastopol

From Philippe we have a rich legacy. We can enjoy his dances even if dancers can no longer benefit from his clear calling and elegant demonstration of dance figures.

Val and Ian McFarlane