

## DESERT BLUES

Chor. Paul Boizot, 2015. Music; Nak Amadjar Nidounia by Tamikrest (a Tuareg band from Mali), from album Toumastin, available from Amazon mp3\* or iTunes.

Desert Blues is the name given to a genre of music, initially from the band Tinariwen, which mixes traditional Malian Tuareg material with electric guitars and bass guitars. Some of the lyrics reflect the experience of this community, which has involved war and dislocation. The lyrics to this song are an (extreme!) example, so I have appropriated the term "Desert Blues" for the title of the dance. Dance themes could be: journey, passage, the good and the bad, concern for suffering of the people. Or, as usual, ignore all that and just enjoy the steps with the music!

Rhythm 4/4. Steps are slow-quick-quick-slow-slow. Slow = 2 beats and quick = 1 beat. Formation; open circle or circle. Arms V.

Start – after approximately 10 bars, on the strong beat after the first two syllables of the singing.

1.  $\circlearrowright$  sR, Lxf q, replace R q,  $\circlearrowleft$  sL,  $\circlearrowright$  sR, Lxb, sR q, close L q, sR,  $\circlearrowleft$  sway L.
2.  $\circlearrowright$  R, L q, R q,  $\uparrow$  sway L beginning to turn to face  $\circlearrowright$ ,  $\circlearrowdown$  rock back on R,  $\circlearrowleft$  sL, sR q, close L q, sR,  $\circlearrowleft$  sway L.

Translation of lyrics; From this world, to whom I owe my existence, my days will reach their end. I'm just a passenger of life, which as it come, will also take its leave. My soul and heart know it, and I also believe that I was not created to be eternal. My life is made of illusions, in which my sadness overwhelms my joy. My heart never ceases to express the evil I have known, which my people have lived. Source; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StDAwWjLIW4>

\* if you buy this mp3, or any other items from Amazon, via any Amazon link on my website at [www.paulboizot.co.uk](http://www.paulboizot.co.uk), I will get a commission. Direct link; [http://www.amazon.co.uk/exec/obidos/redirect-home?tag=aromcircfolkd-21&placement=home\\_multi.gif&site=amazon](http://www.amazon.co.uk/exec/obidos/redirect-home?tag=aromcircfolkd-21&placement=home_multi.gif&site=amazon)

Paul Boizot 26.07.17