

# PRESENTATION BOOK



*Ensemble Folklorique*

## **La Chanson de la Montagne de Nendaz**

[www.chansondelamontagne.ch](http://www.chansondelamontagne.ch)

## Presentation

All folk "La Chanson de la Montagne de Nendaz" aims to make you discover the traditional Wallis art through dances and songs from the Alps of southern Switzerland.

Our productions consist of authentic dances, habits and customs of a proud mountain's people and workers, who also know how to enjoy life. Our dances and songs will share all these emotions sometimes by nostalgic rhythms sometimes by rapid and dynamic music.

The range of our repertoire includes street entertainment varying lengths and extends to gala performances from 10 to 30 minutes.

The group, consisting of an orchestra, a choir and a dance team, is looking forward to share his passion for folklore.



## The group

Our group founded in 1957 was primarily intended to perform choral art. In 1970, he grows and completed a dance group and orchestra. Fro then on, the group has grown by participating in various national and international events inclusive of a number of events in Wallis and Switzerland.

The folk group of "La Chanson de la Montagne de Nendaz" is a member of CIOFF Switzerland and the "Fédération valaisanne des amis du patois".

The group has participated in numerous events in Switzerland and abroad. Below are a few a them:

- Various cultural, regional and national performances
- "Fêtes du Rhône" in Vevey in 1987 – "Fêtes de Genève" in 1988
- Europeades - Klaïpeda Lituanie in 2009 and in 2010 Bolzano Italy
- "Festival Europa-Folk" - Dourges, France in 2011
- "Célébrations Interculturelles de la Montagne d'Evolène" (CIOFF) in 2011 and 2017
- Festival CIOFF "La Ronde des Copains du Monde" - Ambert, France in 2012
- 50th anniversary of Zachéos, in the" Festival International de Folklore d'Octodure" (FIFO / CIOFF) in 2012
- "Prague Folklore Days" in 2013
- Festival international folklorique « Portes Ouvertes au Folklore » Imbsheim 2016
- Magic Valley Folk Festival CIOFF, Burley/Idaho - USA 2017





## Style of Expression: authentic and elaborated

The folk group of “La Chanson de la Montagne de Nendaz” embodies traditional expression of authentic cultural and identity of the canton of Wallis. The content of the program also covers several areas, harmonization of music and creation of new dances that use traditional elements also allow to classify the group in the elaborate style.

## Repertoire

Our program is divided into two distinct parts:

- Representative of Valais and folk dances from various regions of Switzerland danced with the festive costume.
- Dances compound scenes and inspired songs of our heritage representing different arts such as woodworking, making cheese from the Alps, wool works, not to mention the festive period at the end of each seasonal cycle. They are ideal subjects for us to present and celebrate along with traditional costumes.



## Songs

Our traditional songs are an integral part of the scenes. They enhance certain parts danced by telling pieces of old life and complement the melancholy rhythm.

## The orchestra

Our band has 6 experienced musicians. The following instruments make up the 3 "Schwytzois" accordions, 1 bass, 1 cornet and 1 baritone horn.

They are well-known and had the privilege to host the "Bal de l'Europe" in 2009 in Lithuania as well as to ensure the opening of the "FIFO" in Martigny in 2010.





## Costumes

Women wear a sleeveless black dress neckline lined in velvet and black lace. It is formed at the rear of very tight accordion pleats at the waist and the bottom ends of the coat by a border of black velvet. The dress is worn with a white blouse with puffed sleeves and tight cuffs with a white lace. The set consists of an apron and a black scarf with fringes, hand-embroidered beautiful colorful flowers.

Women also wear a headdress made of cotton and black lace covered with a flat, curved boater on both sides. It is covered in black velvet and lined with silk and decorated with a corolla black satin ribbons forming four "accordion" four folds. They also wear white stockings and black shoes adorned with a silver buckle.

The dress of the men consists of trousers, waistcoat and a brown cloth jacket worn with a white shirt. The cuffs, pockets and collar are surrounded by a green velvet braid. A green "Lavallière" node and a black felt hat complete the ensemble worn with black shoes.



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