Fermat's Bicycle -or- August in Erlangen

(4x40 S / 4 Couples / 4 C Set) - Alice Silverberg / Karl Rubin

This dance was devised for our group by Alice Silverberg and Karl Rubin in August of 1994. They had been working here for a term as mathematicians at the university. Over 350 years ago, Pierre de Fermat (1601-1665) stated a mathematics conjecture, which became known as Fermat's Last Theorem. Andrew Wiles (whose first PhD student was Karl) announced a proof of the conjecture in June of 1993. The dance was written in honor of Wiles' announcement of a proof of Fermat's Last Theorem. The bicycle motif that occurs in the dance (note the wheels and spokes) commemorates the fact that Erlangen is a very bicycle-friendly town.

8 bars	1+3C petronella figure half-way around the set, with 2+4C stepping up (for 2 bars) and joining in. Finish 2+4C in a line along the set in the middle.
8 bars	2+4C full reel of four
4 bars	1+2C and 3+4C right hands across
4 bars	4M, followed by 3M, 4L and 3L dance up the men's side, while 2L, followed by 1L, 2M and 1M dance down the women's side
4 bars	1-4M and 1-4L circle to the left only (four hands round at the top and bottom half of the set)
4 bars	half rights and lefts in the middle
4 bars	1M+4L (on women's side) give right hands and cross between 4M and 1L (on men's side), cast back to women's side. 3M+2L do the same in the meantime. (Ending with 4C at the top, then 1C, 2C, 3C, but 1C and 3C on the wrong side.)
4 bars	1C + 3C cross over and up one place, cast around other couples to same places but on own side. Finish 4C-1C-2C-3C (from top to bottom) - reverse progression!
	repeat three times