

## Statement from the Heart or "Voice, Treaty, Truth"

Folk/bush dance by David Wanless, Tasmania, 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2020. **Difficulty:** Easy

Formation: 3 people in a heart (triangle) shape - #1 furthest from the top and facing up, #2 and #3 at the top and facing down, numbering clockwise

A1 - 8 bars - Star Lh, Rh

A2 - 8 bars - Turn Rh, Lh, Rh, Lh - #1 turn #2 Rh, #3 Lh, #2 Rh and #3 Lh (or fewer turns if they run out of time), finish holding hands in line of three facing up, with #1 in centre

B1 - 2 bars - Walk back four steps

- 2 bars - Turn single R

- 2 bars - Walk forward four steps

- 2 bars - Turn single L, and #1 pull back, all take hands in circle (in original positions)

B2 - 4 bars - Circle L all the way (slip steps)

- 4 bars - Circle R  $1\frac{1}{3}$  (four places) (slip steps) to progress, so now have original #2 where #1 was originally

### Variation:

A2 was originally written as a reel with #1 giving Rsh to #3. Dancers may choose.

### Music:

32 bar reels. I use the Reconciliation Reel and Tam Lin.

### Notes:

Written during COVID-19 lockdown and National Reconciliation Week on third anniversary of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, for a Zoom dance. We were running weekly Friday Zoom dances at the time. So, originally mostly done by one or two people.

The three dancers represent the three requests of the Uluru Statement from Heart - Voice, Treaty and Truth.

A1 represents the back and forth to the left and right of politics.

A2 represents the twists and turns on the path to reconciliation, justice and Australia growing up, coming to terms with its past, healing and moving forward.

B1 represents the many backward steps but then the forward steps we can take.

B2 represents the circle in which we need to sit down, listen and work things out. It was inspired by Tasmanian poet and singer Daniel Townsend's song "Circle people sitting down".