

FANTASIA MICHOACAN

(Mexican)

A Mexican couple dance introduced to us by Carlos Rosas of Mexico City.

MUSIC: Record: Imperial 1015, *Fantasia Michoacan*

FORMATION: Couples in double circle facing each other about six feet apart. M's hands are clasped low in back; W holds skirt lightly in front. These hand positions are maintained throughout dance. This dance may be done in a variety of formations, lines or circles, alternating M and W.

COSTUME: M wears his shirt tied in front and wrap-around pants. The hat he wears is a plain sombrero such as the farm workers wear. The W wears a ranchera-type costume, as seen in Michoacan. Her rebozo is worn over her head, behind her shoulders and under the arms with the back edge brought forward and tucked into the belt at the end of the fringe.

STEPS: Tour de Basque, Chasse*, Pas de Basque*, "V" Brush, Leap*, Rock (Punte Cruzado), V Rock.

Music 4/4, 3/4, 6/8, 2/4

PATTERN

ILLUSTRATIONS

Measures

4/4

1

I. Turns and Chasse

a. Take one tour de basque to L. (Begin with weight on L foot. Pick up R foot describing an arc and place it on floor to L of L foot. Turn to L with weight on balls of both feet and finish with weight on R foot, R toe turned diagonally to R, L toe pointed slightly to L, about six inches in front of R.)

2

Repeat tour de basque turn, crossing L over R and turning to R.

3

Repeat action of measure 1.

4

Repeat action of measure 2 on cts. 1, & 2, only. On cts. 3, 4, step L, R (in place), turning 1/4 to L to finish with R shoulder toward partner.

5-8

b. Chasse Step: Move toward partner beginning with a very slight hop on L while lifting R off floor, R knee turned out, then step R on R (cts. & 1), close L to R, step on R to R; face L and slowly draw L to R and up in an arc. Step out on L, close R to L, step out on L and face R (cts. 2, 3, 4, 5). Repeat action of Fig. 1, b, twice more, using 5 counts each time you travel toward partner and away—starting toward partner on cts. 1, 6 and 11 (total 15 cts.)

Partners step on R as they face each other (ct. 16).

Close L to R (ct. 17), hold (ct. 18).

Extra 2 cts.

Note: This is a most unusual rhythm and dancers should take care not to deviate from this count. The first time partners move toward each other, they pause about two feet apart. The second time they are a little closer. The third time they finish back to back, partners peeking over shoulders at each other in flirtatious manner.

3/4

1-8

II. Pas de Basque Around Partner and Back

a. Beginning R, partners advance toward each other using 8 light side pas de basques without crossing feet: Leap to R on R (ct. 1), step on L beside R (ct. 2), step on R in place (ct. 3). Repeat pas de basque 7 times beginning L, R, L, R, L, R, L.

9-16

b. Take 1 pas de basque step in place beginning on R. Take 7 more pas de basques moving clockwise around partner, facing partner at all times.

Note: In order to travel to L, the leap on the L is much longer than the one on the R.

17-24

c. Repeat action of Fig. II, b, beginning R and moving counterclockwise about partner.

Note: This time increase length of leaps taken on R and decrease leaps on L.

25-32

d. Beginning R, partners retire to position about six feet apart, moving backward on 8 pas de basques.

6/8

1

III. "V" Brush Step

a. Hop L, at same time brush R toe diagonally forward L (cts. 1, 2, 3), hop L and brush R toe diagonally backward across L (cts. 4, 5, 6). The two brush steps describe an inverted V, i.e:



2

b. Hop L, brush R diagonally forward R (cts. 1, 2, 3), hop L, brush R backward (cts. 4, 5, 6), i.e:



Music 4/4, 3/4, 6/8, 2/4

PATTERN

ILLUSTRATIONS

- 3-6 Repeat action of Fig. III, a and b, twice.
7 Repeat action of Fig. III, a.
Note: While taking hops and brush steps, M and W turn counterclockwise in place twice.
- 8 a. Facing partner, stamp on R, hold.
9-16 b. Repeat action of Fig. III, meas. 1-8, beginning with R hop, brush with L, turn clockwise and stamp L.
- 3/4 IV. *Pas de Basque and Leaps*
1-2 a. While facing partner, M and W take two side pas de basques (R, L).
3-4 b. M and W leap to R on R (ct. 1). Leap on L across R making 1/4 turn to R, still looking over L shoulder toward partner (ct. 2). Leap on R to R making 1/4 turn R (back toward partner) (ct. 3). Quick scuff L and leap L (cts. & 1), hold (ct. 2), raise R in arc (ct. 3).
5-8 c. Repeat action of Fig. IV, a and b, traveling back clockwise to face partner.
9-16 Repeat action of Fig. IV, meas. 1-8.
Note: The leaps are done in a choppy manner but the whole step is done lightly on toes, finishing close to partner with L shoulders adjacent.
- 2/4 V. *Simple Rock Step*
1 a. Drop weight forward on flat of R foot at same time touching L toe tip across base of R heel (both knees relaxed and turned out, L knee bent), (ct. 1). Drop weight back onto L, R toe tip across L toe tip (R knee bent) (ct. 2).
2-8 Repeat action of Fig. V, meas. 1, 7 times (8 rocks altogether) moving counterclockwise around partner with L shoulders adjacent.
9-16 b. Repeat action of Fig. V, meas. 1-8, but on first count turn so that R shoulders are adjacent and L foot is in front of R. Partners move clockwise about each other, and finish facing each other on own original side about two feet apart.
- 3/4 VI. *Pas de Basque and Stamping Leap*
1-16 Repeat action of Fig. IV, meas. 1-12, but instead of a light manner, stamp on leaps and do pas de basques in a heavy noisy manner as though quite angry.
- 2/4 VII. *V Rock*
1-8 Repeat action of Fig. V, meas. 1-8, with following variation: W exaggerates her rocks, swaying the body forward and back from the hips down. M rocks forward R (ct. 1), and as he rocks back onto L, R foot is extended directly to R side, R toe down, R knee taut (ct. 2), then he drops weight back onto R behind L (ct. 1). Then M drops weight forward onto L and extends R out to side again (ct. 2). He continues in this manner for first 8 meas. moving about partner counterclockwise.
9-16 Repeat action of Fig. V, meas. 9-16, but with W taking exaggerated rock steps and M taking V rock with L ft. Finish facing partner, moving backward on final beat so that M and W are approximately four feet apart.
- 4/4 VIII. *Turns*
1-2 Repeat action of Fig. I, meas. 1-2.
3 Lift R (ct. 1), turn to L (ct. 2), lift L (ct. 3), turn to L (ct. 4).
4 Lift R (ct. 1), turn L (ct. 2), hold (ct. 3, 4).
Note: On turns M and W move slightly backward, finishing about six feet apart.
- 3/4 IX. *Pas de Basque and Pose*
1-6 Beginning R, M and W move forward toward partner taking 6 sideward pas de basques.
7-12 Move toward partner on 4 pas de basques.
Extra 2 cts. Take 2 quick stamps turning R shoulder to partner in pose.
Note: Pantomime plays a very important part in this dance. In the early part M tries to impress W, and she is shy and not responsive and dances in a rather restrained manner. M becomes increasingly annoyed and flirts with the other girls. Both show indifference on Fig. V, reaching the height of annoyance in Fig. VI, which is shown by the stamping. On Fig. VII, they seem to come to a friendly understanding and are very attentive to each other and remain so throughout the rest of the dance.

