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LA JOAQUINITA

(Mexican) Pronounced Waw-Kee-Nee-Ta

La Joaquinita was introduced to the Folk Dance Federation by Helen Erfer, who notated it while traveling in Mexico. It is known mainly in northern Mexico. The tune was popular during the Pancho Villa period. The character of the dance is extremely flirtatious and rather comic. The man leans forward throughout the dance, the woman dances more demurely.

- MUSIC:** Record: Imperial 1084—"La Joaquinita."
- FORMATION:** Partners facing each other in a double circle, M with back to center. W holds skirt in front, M clasps both hands behind him.
- STEPS:** *Joaquinita Step:* Step-Close-Step-Chug (a backward pull on supporting foot; the other foot is lifted slightly). (Cts. 1, 2, 3, 4.)
Step-tap: Step R (Ct. 1), hop R while touching L toe in back of R ft. (Ct. 2). Repeat on L. (Cts. 3, 4).
Step-close: heel-toe: Step-close to R twice (Ct. 1, 2, 3, 4), step swd. R (Ct. 1), displace R ft. with a quick leap on L ft., placing R heel to side (Ct. 2), then place R toe close to L ft. (Ct. 3, 4); quickly step down on R ft. and repeat sequence to L.
Buzz: heel-toe: Step R, bending knee, step on L toe behind R ft. Repeat this action twice more, turning slowly R once around. Hop on R ft., touching L heel to side, then touch L toe by R ft. (no hop).

MUSIC 4/4	PATTERN
Measures	
1-4	<i>Introduction. Stand in place</i>
1	<i>I. Joaquinita Step in Line: Joaquinita Step in Circle</i>
2	Both starting R, take 1 Joaquinita step to R.
3-4	Repeat to L.
5-8	Repeat Fig. I, meas. 1-2.
9-12	Each makes a small individual circle CW with 4 Joaquinita steps, starting R. Brush L shoulders as partners turn away from each other. Finish with R shoulders adjacent.
13-16	<i>II. Step-Tap Around: Joaquinita Step in Line</i>
1-2	With R shoulders close and partners looking at each other over shoulder, circle around once CW with 8 step-taps. Finish facing partner as at beginning.
3-4	Repeat Fig. I, meas. 1-4.
5-8	<i>III. Step-Close: Heel-Toe</i>
1-2	Moving to R, step-close, heel-toe as described above. On heel-toe action, lean twd. R while looking over L shoulder at partner.
3-4	Repeat, moving to L.
5-8	Repeat Fig. III, meas. 1-4.
9-10	<i>IV. Buzz: Heel-Toe</i>
11-12	M repeats action of Fig. III, meas. 1-8, while W turns in place to R with 3 buzz steps once around (Ct. 1, & 2, & 3). Hop on R ft., placing L heel to side (Ct. &), then touch L toe close to R ft. (Ct. 4). Bend twd. L, looking over L shoulder at partner.
13-16	W repeats buzz steps and heel-toe in opp. direction.
1	W repeats action Fig. IV, meas. 9-12.
2	<i>V. Joaquinita Step Backward and Forward: Women Turn under Arch</i>
3-4	Moving bwd., take 1 Joaquinita step away from partner.
5-8	Moving fwd., take 1 Joaquinita step toward partner.
1	Repeat Fig. V, meas. 1-2.
2	Join R hands in an arch; M dances 4 Joaquinita steps in place while W turns once CW slowly under joined upraised arms with 4 Joaquinita steps. (W continues to look at M as she turns.)
3-4	
5-8	

LA JOAQUINITA (*Continued*)

MUSIC 4/4	PATTERN
9-12	<p>VI. <i>Turn in Varsovienne Position: Backward and Forward</i></p> <p>Keeping R hands joined high, join L hands in front of M and turn CCW together (M moves bwd.) with 4 Joaquinita steps. Partners look at each other.</p>
13-16	<p>Drop hands and face partners as at beginning. Repeat Fig. V, meas. 1-4, finishing with 3 accented steps moving twd. partner on last meas. (L, R, L). Hold on last ct. Repeat entire dance.</p> <p>Repeat Fig. I and Fig. II. On last meas. of Fig. II, take 3 accented steps twd. partner and pose on last ct., R shoulders adjacent.</p>