Le Porcher
France (Alsace)

Le Porcher (luh pohr-SHAY), the Swineherd, was presented at the 1983 Mendocino Folklore Camp by Yvon Gui1cher, who attributed its rhythmic complexity to “contemporary invention,” notably by Alsacian Richard Schneider. The mixture of two-step and waltz is a reminder of the German Zwiefacher. The dance has been taught recently by Marilyn Smith at the 2011 Festival of the Oaks, Feb 26 at Live Oak Park, Berkeley, CA.

Music: CDs: Dances from the French Countryside, Band 3. 2/4 & 3/4 meter
Meter: 2/4 & 3/4. The relatively fast measures, counted: 1, 2 and 1, 2, 3, respectively, are of approximately equal lengths.

Formation: Couples in ballroom position are scattered randomly, each dancing within a small area.

Steps and Styling: Steps are fast and small. Turns are tight and may end facing in any direction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>2/4 &amp; 3/4 meter</th>
<th>PATTERN</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION - No action. 8 meas = 2/4+2/4+3/4+3/4+2/4+2/4+3/4+3/4. Steps are described for M; W footwork is opposite throughout.</td>
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I. SIDE STEPS & WALTZ TURNS
1. Step L on L (ct 1); step R beside L with wt (ct 2).
2. Repeat meas 1, ct 1 (ct 1); close R beside L, no wt (ct 2).
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp fswk and direction.
5. Turning CW as a couple, waltz L, R, L.
6. Continuing CW turn, waltz R, L, R.
7-12 Repeat meas 1-6.

II. PIVOT TURNS & WALTZ TURNS
1. Turning CW as a couple, pivot: L (ct 1); R (ct 2).
2. Repeat meas 1.
3-4 Repeat Fig I, meas 5-6.
5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three more times (4 times total).

Sequence: Dance repeats three times from the beginning, a total of four.

We thank Bill Lidicker for some valuable comments.