

Romance

(Russia)

"Romance" was learned by Alexandru David from the Beryozka Dance Ensemble of the U.S.S.R. in Moscow in May, 1979 and introduced by him at the 1979 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

MUSIC: Record: "Barinya-Russian Folk Dances". S-A, B-3.
3/4 and 4/4 meter.

The dance patterns in 3/4 meter all begin on ct 3 of the preceding measure. The tempo changes frequently and the movements must be adjusted to fit the music.

FORMATION: Cpls at random, M with back to ctr, W facing ptr; arms at sides. Ftwk is the same for M and W unless otherwise specified.

STEPS: All stamps are without wt unless otherwise specified.

Shoulder-waist pos: Ptrs facing, M hands on W back just above waist; W hands on M shldr, arms fairly straight.

Semi-open ballroom pos: Ptrs facing but open twd joined hands. M R hand at ctr of W back above waist; his R elbow bent and held out. W L hand on M R shldr. The joined hands, M L and W R, extended in LOD.

STYLING: The patterns in 3/4 meter reflect the lyricism and elegance of a courtship dance, while the patterns in 4/4 meter offer an animated contrast.

MUSIC 3/4 and 4/4

PATTERN

Measures

1 meas +
2 cts

INTRODUCTION - no action. Dance begins with balalaika music.

3/4

REVERENCE

Step bkwd on L, R heel remains on floor (ct 3).

1

Bending L knee, start to sweep R arm out to R side about shldr level (ct 1); arm continues movement to side (ct 2); start to bring R arm in twd body (ct 3).

2

Close R ft to L as R arm crosses in front of chest (ct 1); extend R hand from chest to full extension over head (cts 2,3).

3

Bend from waist as R hand sweeps twd floor (cts 1,2); resume erect posture, R arm at side (ct 3). Arm movements during meas 1-3 are continuous and flowing.

4

Step twd ptr on R ft (ct 1); close L to R, joining M R and W L hands (ct 2). M do not take wt on L ft.

I. SIDEWARD AND RETURN (W use opp ftwk)

Step on L to L (ct 3).

1

Step on R across L (cts 1,2); step on L to L (ct 3).

2

Close R to L, no wt (cts 1,2); step on R to R side (ct 3).

3

Step on L across R (cts 1,2); step on R to R side (ct 3).

4

Close L to R (ct 1); hold (ct 2). This is a transition meas into the succeeding 4/4 meter and the actions for cts 3 and 4 described below.

INTERLUDE

3 slow eighth notes and 4 sixteenth notes are heard.

On the second slow note M steps R, W L, turning to face LOD, M takes W L hand in his L, arm extended fwd from body, and places R arm around W waist holding her R hand on hip

(ct 3); hold pos for remainder of Interlude (cts &,4,ah,&,ah).

4/4 II. STEP-BRUSH; TRAVEL IN LOD

Tempo increases throughout and the brush becomes a heel-scuff; the fwd moving steps become light stamps.

1 Step fwd on R (ct 1); brush L diag fwd L (ct &); step fwd on L (ct 2); brush R diag fwd R (ct &); step fwd R, L (cts 3,&); close R to L with a stamp (ct 4).

2 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig II) with opp ftwk.

3-8 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig II) three more times (4 in all), except that on meas 8 the M turns W CW under the joined hands to end in shldr-waist pos (ct 3); there is a hold in the music and no ct 4 is heard.

3/4 III. CIRCLE CCW AND REVERSE

With head tilted to R, leaning away from and looking at ptr, step on ball of R ft to R (ct 3); step on L across R (ct &).

1 Step on ball of R ft to R (ct 1); step on L across R (ct 2); step on ball of R ft to R (ct 3); step on L across R (ct &);

2-3 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig III) two more times (3 in all).

4 Step on R ft to R (ct 1); close L to R, no wt (ct 2); step on ball of L ft to L (ct 3); step on R across L (ct &);

5-7 Repeat action of meas 1-3 (Fig III) with opp ftwk and direction.

8 Step on L ft to L (ct 1); step on R beside L (ct 2); hold (ct 3).

End with M facing RLOD, W LOD, L hips adjacent; M R elbow bent and pointing down, M R hand holding W L (W L arm extended sdwd across M chest); M L hand at W waist, W R hand on M L shldr.

4/4 IV. CIRCLE CCW ONCE AND REVERSE

1 Step fwd on L with plie, raising R knee sharply (ct 1); touch R heel beside L (ct 2); stamp on R in place (ct &); repeat action of cts 1,2,& for cts 3,4,&.

2 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig IV).

3 Step fwd on L with plie, raising R knee sharply (ct 1); touch R heel beside L (ct 2); stamp on R in place (ct &); step on L (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

4 Lunge onto R ft (M twd ctr, W away from ctr), L heel remains on floor, L arms fully extended and change to L hands joined, R arms extended out to side (ct 1); hold (ct 2); recover, taking wt on L ft (ct 3); step R, L making 1/2 turn to L to end with R hips adjacent and arms in reverse of pos in meas 1 (Fig IV) (cts 4,&).

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig IV) with opp ftwk, revolving CW. End with M back to ctr, facing ptr; R hands joined in handshake hold, held low. M L hand at small of back, palm out; W L fist at waist.

V. CIRCLE CW TWICE

Ptrs face each other throughout Fig V.

1 Lift L leg to side and around to front (cts 1,2); step on L across R (ct 3); bending L knee, touch R heel to R side (ct 4).

2 Beg to circle CW, step on R across L (ct 1); step on L to L side (ct 2); repeat action of cts 1,2 for cts 3,4 ending in ptrs place.

3 Step on R across L (ct 1); lift L to side and around to front (ct 2); step on L across R (ct 3); bending L knee, touch R heel to R side (ct 4).

4 Repeat action of meas 2 (Fig V) completing the circle and ending in orig pos.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 3-4 (Fig V) two more times to make the second CW circle.

VI. M TURNS W CCW

M travel CCW around W once as she turns CCW in place.

1 Raising joined R hands above head level, step on R to R (ct 1); step on ball of L ft behind R (ct 2); repeat action of cts 1,2 for cts 3,4.

2-4 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig VI) three more times.

During meas 4 assume shldr-waist pos.

5-8 Continue same ftwk but turn CW twice. On meas 8 end with ft together, M back to ctr, facing ptr. Both place fists on waist.

VII. BRUSH AND LUNGE

1 Brush R diag out to R side (ct 1); brush R across in front of L, heel leading (ct 2); brush R diag out to R side (ct 3); brush R behind L (ct 4).

2 In place, step R,L,R no wt (cts 1,2,3); hold (ct 4).

3 Lunge R onto R ft, L heel remains on floor (ct 1); hold (ct 2); recover with wt on L ft (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

4 Stamp R (ct 1); hold (cts 2-4).

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig VII) with opp ftwk and direction.

VIII. CIRCLE TWICE CCW

With L shldr fwd ptr circle CCW twice.

1 Step R,L,R (cts 1,2,3); brush L ft fwd (ct 4).

2 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig VIII) with opp ftwk.

3-6 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig VIII) twice.

7 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig VIII).

8 Step L,R,L to assume semi-open ballroom pos, M on inside of circle (cts 1,2,3), M take no wt on L; hold (ct 4).

IX. TRAVEL IN LOD; TURN (W use opp ftwk)

One step takes 2 cts throughout Fig IX.

1-2 Move in LOD L,R,L,R.

3-4 Turn CCW with ptr, M moving bkwd, W fwd, with 4 steps.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig IX).

X. FAST TRAVEL; TURN; W TURN

One step takes 1 ct throughout Fig X.

1-2 Move in LOD with 8 running steps, raising heels up in back sharply. M beg L, W R.

3 Turn CCW with ptr with 4 running steps.

4 M runs 4 steps in place, turning W CCW under the joined hands (4 running steps).

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig X), ending in ballroom pos.