

Shih Wu (China)

Shih Wu (SHIH WOO), meaning "Lion Dance" was presented by Ching-Shan Chang at the 1981 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp. The steps are from the "Wu Shiu" (Dancing Lion) which is performed during Chinese New Year and at other important festivals. The steps and formation described here may be arranged in any order to fit the purpose and number of dancers.

RECORD: C.C.S. 1981 Camp (33) Side B/4 2/4 meter

FORMATION: Individual dancers facing fwd, feet apart with knees slightly bent. Both arms are raised outward from the shldr, elbows bent, palms facing fwd, fingers open.

STEPS and Basic Step: Small flat-footed shuffle, four to a meas.
STYLING: During Basic Step, hands shake rapidly.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

Wait three long notes and four short notes, then begin dance.

INTRODUCTION

1-3 Beg R, move fwd with 12 basic steps.

4 Jump fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 moving bkwd.

9-20 Stand with knees straight. Circle arms inward, down, out to side, up, and together, then close fists with palms down and move hands directly down to waist. Strong movement.

PART I

1-4 Beg R, move 4 steps fwd (ct 1 of each meas). When stepping on R, R hand, palm facing fwd, pushes strongly fwd at shldr level, L hand moves bkwd. Opp handwork for L step. On meas 1-8, shout "Hey!" as each step is taken.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 moving bkwd. When stepping on R, R hand moves bkwd, L with palm facing fwd, pushes fwd. Opp handwork for L step.

9-12 Repeat meas 1-4.

13-14 Facing fwd with knees bent, move to R with 4 hops on R (ct 1, 2, 1, 2), leaning to R with L leg raised to L.

15-16 Step on L (ct 1) and move to L with 3 hops on L (ct 2, 1, 2), leaning to L with R leg raised to R.

17-18 With 8 Basic Steps, turn R (CW). During turn, 2 people move close together to end one behind the other, both facing fwd. The one in front is "A", the other "B".

19 Both jump fwd (ct 1); simultaneously B places both hands on A's shldr.

PART II.

1-2 Step fwd on R, L (ct 1 of each meas). B keeps hands on A's shldr until meas 27. A moves arms as in Part I, pushing R arm fwd with R ft and L arm fwd with L ft.

3 Move fwd with 4 Basic Steps.

4 Jump fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 moving bkwd.
- 9-24 Repeat meas 1-16 of Part I.
- 25-26 A and B make one full turn CW with 8 Basic Steps (B behind A).
- 27 With 4 more Basic Steps, B drops hands and A makes a half turn CW to end facing B.
- 28 Both jump away from each other (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

PART III

- 1-12 Repeat meas 1-12 of Part I.
- 13 Step on R to R, leaning body to R.
- 14 Step on L to L, leaning body to L.
- 15-16 Beg R, move to the R with 3 steps (ct 1, 2, 1); lean to R (ct 2).
- 17-20 Repeat meas 13-16 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 21-24 Repeat meas 13-16 of Part I.
- 25-26 With 8 Basic Steps, A and B make one CW turn around each other facing each other.
- 27 With 4 more Basic Steps, A makes a half turn CW and B dances in place to both end facing original direction.
- 28 Both jump in place (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- Repeat dance from beginning.
- End with meas 9-20 of the Introduction.