

OUR KATIA

(Russia)

Our Katia (KAHT-yah) is a horovodnaya pliaska or circle dance. It was introduced by Anatol Joukowsky at the 1964 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

MUSIC: Special recording. Check with local dealer handling folk dance records.

FORMATION: Closed circle, no ptrs. Hands joined and held down.

STEPS: Russian Polka: Step fwd on heel of L (ct 1), close R to L (ct &), step fwd on heel of L (ct 2). Since usual hop is omitted, step resembles a two-step in rhythm. Repeat of step begins with a step fwd on R heel.

Walk*, leap*

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

- 20 meas INTRODUCTION: If desired, stamp on R ft on last ct of meas 20.
- 1-2 Beginning L, dance 2 Russian Polkas to L (RLOD).
- 3-4 Continuing, walk 4 steps (L R L R).
- 5-6 Repeat action of meas 1-2.
- 7-8 Step L in RLOD but turn to face ctr (ct 1), step R twd ctr (ct 2).
- 9 Stamp L beside R, no wt (ct 1), step L twd ctr (ct 2).
- 10 Stamp R beside L, no wt (ct 1, step bwd on R (ct 2).
- 11-12 Continuing, step bwd L, R, L. Circle should be back to original size. Step R twd ctr (meas 12, ct 2).
- 13-16 Repeat action of meas 9-12.
- 17 Repeat action of meas 9.
- 18 Stamp R beside L, no wt (ct 1). Release hands. Extend arms to sides, L high and R low, palms out and elbows straight. Next 4 steps will make 1/2 of a CW circle outward and away from ctr to enlarge circle to original size. Step R diag fwd to R, toe pointing to R (ct 2).
- 19-20 Continuing the CW circling outward and away from ctr, step L, R, L. Circle should now be original size. Stamp R in RLOD (meas 20, ct 2) and rejoin hands to begin dance again.

Note: Dance is written to conform to musical structure. When dancing it, the first part seems to end on ct 1 of meas 8. The second part seems to begin on ct 2 of meas 8 and end with the 1/2 CW circle of 4 steps and a stamp. When cueing the dance, it might be wise to use a dance ct that starts anew on ct 2 of meas 8.

OUR KATIA (concluded)

VARIATIONS

These may be done at any time by any of the dancers without disturbing the others.

Variation I: To be used when moving twd ctr of circle.

- 8 Ct 1 same as original description. Small leap onto R twd ctr (ct 2), stamp L heel beside R, no wt (ct &).
- 9 Small leap onto L twd ctr (ct 1), stamp R heel beside L, no wt (ct &), bigger leap onto R twd ctr (ct 2), step L beside R (ct &).
- 10 Stamp R beside L, no wt (ct 1). Ct 2 same as original description. Twice again dance moves twd ctr (meas 12, ct 2 through meas 14, ct 1; and meas 16, ct 2 through meas 18, ct 1) and each time this variation may be used.

Variation II: To be used when backing away from ctr of circle.

Use the same footwork as given for Variation I, but do it while backing out of circle (meas 10, ct 2 through meas 12, ct 1; and meas 14, ct 2 through meas 16, ct 1).

Variation III: To be used when backing away from ctr of circle.

- 10 Ct 1 same as original description. Moving directly bwd to original pos, step R, L (cts 2 &).
- 11 Continuing bwd, step R L R L (cts 1 & 2 &).
- 12 Stamp R beside L, no wt (ct 1). Ct 2 same as original description. Can be used also for meas 14, ct 2 through meas 16, ct 1.