

OBEREK OPOCZYNSKI |

(Poland)

Oberek Opoczynski (Oh-poh-CHEEN-skee) comes from the town of Opoczno in the central part of Poland. It was introduced by Anatol Joukowsky at the 1964 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

MUSIC: Records: Bruno BR 50017 Side A, Band 4; Vanguard VRS 6001 or 9016 (Song from Opoczno)

FORMATION: Cpls in double circle facing LOD (CCW), W to R of M. Inside hands joined and held shoulder height, elbows bent. M L hand free, usually extended diag fwd. W hold skirt with R, at place where finger-tips would normally touch. Hold it out a little to the side but do not "swish" skirt.

STEPS: Pas de Basque: Leap diag fwd onto L (ct 1), step R across in front of L (ct 2), step in place on L (ct 3).
Traveling Pas de Basque: Basically same as Pas de Basque but step in LOD on ct 2 instead of crossing. Lengthen steps so more ground can be covered.

Turning Step: Two Turning Steps are used to make 1 CW turn (as in waltz, polka, etc.). Small leap onto L with bend of knee, starting to make a CW turn (ct 1); continuing turn, step R (ct 2): step L, completing 1/2 turn CW (ct 3). Begin second Turning Step with leap onto R and complete the CW turn.

Each Figure (and odd-numbered meas) begins with ML-WR ft, unless otherwise stated.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures

4 meas INTRODUCTION

I. PAS DE BASQUE AND TAP OUTSIDE FOOT

1-3 Move fwd in LOD with 3 Pas de Basques.

4 Step on inside ft (ct 1). Tap outside ft (ML-WR) beside inside ft (ct 2). Raise bent knee (ML-WR), at same time raising and lowering heel of MR-WL ft (ct 3).

5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 three times (4 in all).

II. TRAVEL AND TURN THE WOMAN (Vocal)

1-6 Move in LOD with 6 Traveling Pas de Basques. Cover more ground than

continued...

OBEREK OPOCZYNSKI (continued)

- in Fig I. Gradually change hand pos to hands joined in front, L in L and R in R, joined L above joined R.
- 7-8 M dance 2 Pas de Basques almost on the spot. Raising joined hands turn W once to L (CCW). At end of turn, lower joined hands. W turn with 6 steps.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig II) but on meas 15-16 turn W to R (CW).
- 17-32 Repeat action of meas 1-16 (Fig II.) At end of last turn, finish side by side, facing LOD, (as before) but change hand hold. W place L arm across M shoulders (M help put it there); M R hand on W R waist; outside arms extended swd, down, and out.

III. BUTTERFLY TURN

- 1-8 With knees bent, also bend fwd from waist, heads close together. Dance 8 Pas de Basques on the spot, turning CCW (M moving bwd). Finish facing ctr of circle.
- 9-12 Releasing ptr, M dance 4 Pas de Basques in place, hands clasped behind back. W, holding skirts, move fwd twd ctr with 4 Pas de Basques.
- 13-14 With 2 Pas de Basques, M dance twd ctr. With same step, W turn L (CCW) to face ptr.
- 15-16 Continuing Pas de Basques, all join R hands with own ptr and L with corner. Because hands are joined, this is one circle but actually there is an inner circle of W facing out and an outer circle of M facing in.

IV. TURNING UNDER JOINED HANDS

- 1-4 M dance 4 Pas de Basques in place. W dance 4 Pas de Basques turning R (CW) once around under R joined hands.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig IV) but W turn L once around under joined hands.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig IV) but M turn R under joined R and back to L while W dance in place.

V. TURNING WITH PARTNER (Vocal)

- 1-2 While dancing 2 Pas de Basques, release joined L hands and M lead W away from ctr to make a larger circle.
- 3-4 While dancing 2 Pas de Basques, put R hips adjacent and M place W R hand on his L shoulder, his R hand on W L waist; M L hand out to side and down. W hold skirt with L hand. While making this pos change, move in a 1/2 circle CW so M back is to ctr of circle.
- 5-16 Dance 12 Turning Steps, turning CW and moving in LOD in circle.
Note: When using Vanguard record, dance ends here. If using Bruno record, dance Turning Steps for 8 more meas and then dance off the floor as the music fades.