

A Corrido From Northern Mexico

The production of corridos (ballads) in Mexico has been continuous and prolific. Recently a corrido was published concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. At one time they were used as a means of spreading the news; and as their tempo was usually quite suitable for paso dobles and polkas, they were and are used as dance music. The dance is called a one-step or corrido and is done especially in Northern Mexico.

MUSIC: Record: Columbia LP EX-5032 "Potpourri Norteño"

FORMATION: Cpls standing side by side in a large circle. Cpls (not & STYLING: ptrs) about 6 ft apart. Many of the steps are in closed pos, but otherwise there is much freedom and variety in pos of hands; (W holding skirts. Hands on hips, etc.) (M's hands clasped behind back, thumbs hooked in belt, etc.) This is a free and easy dance, noisy and slightly lusty; a product of the cantinas of the border towns.

STEPS: One-Step: One step to each beat of music; stepping out on ball of ft, keeping knees soft (2 of these steps to 1 meas of 2/4 music).

Side-Step: Step to side, ct 1; draw other ft to side of standing ft ct 2; (1 meas). Repeat with the same foot.

Grapevine: Step to side on L ft, step R ft across in back of L, step to side on L ft, step R ft across in front of L (this requires 2 meas but step may be con't any number of meas). Done in ballroom dance pos, ptrs facing & traveling to M's L. Step written for M, W on opp ft.

MUSIC: 2/4 PATTERN

Music tempo is 2/4; semming differences in tempo are achieved by variations in accent and by sustained notes.

Meas.

INTRODUCTION:

1-8 At very beg of music W walk twds ctr & stand facing ctr.

9-16 At repeat of music (on lower note), M walks to ptr & stands beside her, takes her L H in his L H and puts his R H on her waist; both are facing ctr.

1-2 Both start R ft - 4 one-steps twd ctr.

3-4 4 one-steps bkwd away from ctr.

5-8 4 side-steps moving to R.

9-16 Release hold, ptrs face & bow (elaborately); assume ballroom pos with M's back to ctr.

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STEP I: M progress. M start L ft, W R ft, ballroom pos throughout.

- 1-4 Grapevine moving to M's L, keeping in LOD.
- 5-6 4 pivot steps in place.
- 7-8 2 side-steps to M's L.
- 9-10 4 one-steps in LOD; ptrs facing, M moving fwd & W fwd LOD.
- 11-12 4 pivot steps in place.
- 13-16 8 walking steps; the W remains in place, but the M moves fwd to the next W in the circle, bows to her, and assumes ballroom pos.
- 17-32 Repeat meas 1-16, but as the M walks fwd to the next W she faces ctr, takes his L H in her L H so that he is forced to face ctr also. They are standing side by side as he puts his R H on her waist as in INTRODUCTION.

STEP II: W progress, both start R ft.

- 1-4 4 one-steps fwd twd ctr, 4 one-steps bkwd away from ctr.
- 5-8 4 side-steps moving to R, both still facing ctr.
- 1a-8a Repeat meas 1-8, but on side-steps M remains in place and W moves to her R to assume pos (as in meas 1), with next M at her R.
- 9a-32a Repeat meas 1a-8a three more times. On the last sequence M moves twd ctr, faces approaching W and takes her in ballroom dance pos with his back to ctr.

STEP III: M start L ft, W R ft, ballroom pos throughout.

- 1-2 4 one-steps, M moving fwd & W bkwd away from ctr.
- 3-4 4 one-steps, M moving bkwd & W fwd twd ctr.
- 5-12 8 side-steps moving twd M's L & W's R; each cpl traveling in a small CCW circle to finish with all cpls in a single circle, ptrs facing & M's back to ctr.

STEP IV: M progress. M start L ft, W R ft, ballroom pos.

- 1-28 Repeat STEP I until the last 4 meas.
- 29-32 M takes as few steps (6 steps) as possible to meet the 3rd W & pivots with her to the end of the music.