# RUSSIAN PEASANT DANCE

(Russia)

This dance was arranged by Sergei Temoff, and taught to Changs International Folk Dancers in 1945. It was presented as an exhibition at a War Bond Rally in the San Francisco Civic Auditorium in the summer of that year. The music used is a popular Russian Folk Song, "The Moon Shines".

MUSIC:

Record: National 4001 - Russian Peasant Dance

Victor 25-0030A "Shining Moon"

Piano: Svietit Miesiets (The Moon Shines)

M. E. Shambaugh, A. S. Barnes & Co. 1932

FORMATION:

Cpls in a circle, ptrs facing, M back to ctr.

Free fists on hips unless otherwise stated. W, hands on hips,

may carry handkerchief to use during W solo.

STEPS AND STYLING:

Russian Polka\*, Pas de Bas\*, Walk\*, Three Step Turn\*, Push step\*, Slide\*, Pivot\*, Hop\*, Run\*, Hungarian Turn Pos, Varsouvienne pos\*.

Prysiadkas: Squat on heels with hands down between knees (cts 1, 2); rise to astride pos with wt on heels, toes pointing up, open arms sdwd about waist level (cts 1, 2).

Prysiadkas with Pivot Turn: Squat on heels with hands down between knees (cts 1, 2). Rise to astride pos, wt on R ft, L heel extended diag fwd, toe up, R arm arched high, L hand extended sdwd (cts 1, 2). Step on L (ct 1), pivot turn CCW (ct 2); step R (ct 1), hold (ct 2). Repeat step reversing ftwork and pivot turn.

Russian Skip (2 to a meas): Step R directly behind L, displacing L (cts 1, &); hop R (ct ah), step L behind R, displacing R (cts 2, &), hop L (ct ah) (same timing as regular skip). Keep knees turned out.

Hop-Tap (CW turn): Hop R and at the same time tap L ft on floor (ct 1), hop R and at the same time raise L ft off floor, knee bent, ft under body (ct 2). Reverse ftwork for CCW turn.

Toe-Toe-Kick Step: Hop L, touch R toe to R side, toe turned down, heel up, knee turned in (ct 1); hop L, touch R toe in same spot, heel up, knee turned out (ct 2). Hop L, kick R ft diag fwd, leg straight (ct 1), step R to L (ct 2). Repeat step reversing ftwork.

Jump-Tap: Handkerchief may be held in R hand. Jump on L making 1/4 turn CCW, at the same time tap R toe, on floor in front of L toe (both arms come down in front of body) (ct 1); hop L, raise R knee, knee out, toe down, and make 1/4 CW turn (R arm swings high to R side) (ct 2). Repeat step, reversing ftwork, direction of turn and arm.

Step-Slap: Step fwd on R heel, toe pointed up (ct 1), lower toe to floor with a slap, take wt on R (ct 2). Repeat step reversing ftwork.

| MUSIC 2/4 | PATTERN   |
|-----------|---|
| Measures  |   |
| 16 meas   | INTRODUCTION Watch ptr with interest  |
|           | I. AWAY AND TOGETHER  |
| 1-4       | Both bend fwd from hips; on ct l of each meas clap own hands in front and at the same time stamp R ft on floor slightly fwd (4 times in all).   |
| 5-8       | Dance 8 Russian Skip steps bkwd away from ptr; M fists on hips. W start with hands on hips, gradually extend hands twd ptr, palms up, arms rounded.   |
| 9-12      | Repeat action of meas 1-4.  |
| 13-16     | Both begin R. With 2 Russian polka steps and 3 stamps, R-L-R, move twd ptr. Place R arm around ntrs waist, L arm arched high, R hips adjacent (Hungarian Turn Pos).   |
| 1         | I. HOP-TAP  |
| 1-8       | Dance 8 Hop-tap steps turning CW in place.  |
| 9-16      | Reverse ftwork and direction and repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig II). Finish sequence ptrs facing, M back to ctr.  |
| I         | I. REACHING AND W AROUND M  |
|           | Arms extended sdwd, palms down, leading arm slightly above shoulder level, trailing arm slightly below shoulder level:  |
| 1-2       | Beginning ML-WR place heel sdwd twd LOD, knees straight (ct 1), bend knees slightly (ct 2); straighten knees (ct 1); lower toe to floor taking wt and turn 1/2 (M CCW, W CW) to finish back to back (ct 2). |
| 3-4       | Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig III) reversing ftwork and turns. Finish face to face.  |
|           | NOTE: Arms are lowered as ptrs turn on ct 2 of meas 2 and 4.  |
| 5-8       | Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III). Join inside hands, (MR-WL).  |
| 9-16      | M L fist on hip, kneel on L knee and remain in this pos as he leads W twice around him CCW. On ct 2, meas 16, M rise and take ptr in Varsouvienne pos, both facing LOD (CCW).                               |
| 9         | W hold skirt with R hand, step fwd L bending knee (ct 1), sweep R ft in a half circle CCW, step R beside L (ct 2).  |
| 10-16     | Repeat action of meas 9 (Fig III) 7 times (8 in all). Finish on outside of circle, facing LOD, in Varsouvienne pos with ptr.  |
| I         | V. PAS DE BASQUE AND ELBOW HOOK   |
| 1 9       | T 1) 1 T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T  |

- 1-8 Both begin R. Dance 8 Pas de Basque steps fwd in LOD (CCW).
- 9-12 Hook R elbows, L arm arched high, lean away from ptr. Both begin R and walk 8 steps CW in place.
- 13-16 Repeat action of meas 9-12 (Fig IV) reversing ftwork and

direction. Finish sequence in a double circle, ptrs side by side. Both move RLOD throughout following figure.

## V. THREE STEP TURN AND PUSH STEP

1-2 Both begin R. With 3 steps R-L-R, make one complete CW turn sdwd to R (cts 1, 2, 1), swing L across R (ct 2).

NOTE: Remain side by side on turn. Arms hang loosely at sides on turn; clap own hands out to R side on ct 2, meas 2.

- 3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig V) reversing ftwork and direction (3-step turn CCW).
- 5-6 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig V) (3-step turn CW)
- 7-8 Repeat action of meas 3-4 (Fig V) (3-step turn CCW). Omit swing on last ct, face ptr, M back to ctr. W take wt on R.
- 9-14 M fists on hips, move sdwd (RLOD) with 12 push steps.
- 15-16 Walk R, L (RLOD) (cts 1-2), stamp R (ct 1), hold (ct 2).
  On the two walking steps M arms gradually extend fwd;
  on the stamp, open twd ptr with a strong gesture.
- 9-10 W move sdwd (RLOD) with 4 push steps, L arm across front of chest, R arched high. On ct & of 4th push step, turn 1/2 CW to face outside of circle, back to ptr; reverse arm pos.
- 11-12 With 4 push steps and 1/2 turn CW, W continue moving sdwd R (RLOD). Change arm pos on turn (face ptr).
- 13-14 Repeat action of meas 9-10 (Fig V).
- Walk R, L, turning 1/2 CW to face ptr (cts 1-2), stamp R (ct 1), hold (ct 2). NOTE: W turn is always CW, trailing arm is always high.

On the 2 walking steps, arms gradually extend fwd; on the stamp open twd ptr with a strong gesture.

## VI. AWAY, TOGETHER, SKIPPING TURN

- 1-2 Both begin R. Dance 4 Russian skip steps bkwd, away from ptr.
  Begin sequence with hands on hips, gradually extend them fwd
  twd ptr. M may keep fists on hips.
- 3-4 Both begin R. Move fwd with 2 Russian polka steps to finish with R hips adjacent. Place R arm around ptrs waist, join L hands above heads.
- 5-6 With 4 walking steps (R-L-R-L), cpl turn once CW in place.
- 7-8 M step in place R-L-R-L.

  W turn 1/2 CW under joined L hands. Finish sequence side by side, MR arm in back of W with R hands joined on her R waist, joined L hands extended fwd.
- 9-14 Both begin R. Dance 12 skip steps turning CW. M move fwd, W bkwd. Finish sequence M back to ctr.
- 15-16 M step in place R-L-R-L as he turns W CW under joined L hands to face him.

#### VII. MAN'S SOLO

- 1-8 M perform 2 Prysiadkas with Pivot turn, alternating ftwork.
  hand movements and turn.
- 9-12 M perform 2 Prysiadkas.
- 13-15 Fold arms in front of chest; begin R and dance 6 Russian skip steps bkwd in a small CW circle. Finish sequence back to ctr.
- 16 Stamp R, open arms twd ptr (ct 1), hold (ct 2).
- 1-16 W place R elbow in L palm, R hand near chin, R forefinger on cheek as she watches ptr SOLO. On ct 1 of each meas, W tap toe on floor and tap cheek with R forefinger.

#### VIII. WOMAN'S SOLO

- 1-8 M clap hands and stamp R on ct 1 of each meas while watching W SOLO.
- 1-8 W dance 8 jump-tap steps moving bkwd away from ptr.
- 9-10 Both begin R. Move fwd with 2 Russian polka steps. If handkerchief is used, W hold each end in both hands and twist it in front about eye level.
- 11-12 M with 2 Russian polka steps, turn CCW to follow W twd ctr.

  W dance 2 Russian polka steps continuing twd ctr as she
  passes M on his R.
- 13-14 Both continue twd ctr with 2 Russian polka steps.
- Both walk fwd R, L (cts 1, 2), stamp R (ct 1), hold (ct 2).

  W tuck handkerchief in belt, form circle of W by joining hands. M join hands to form an outside circle of M.

### IX. CIRCLE

- 1-4 With 4 Russian polka steps, M begin L and circle CW while W begin R and circle CCW. M face RLOD, W LOD.
- 5-8 All face ctr, continue with 7 sliding steps and stamp (ML-WR) on meas 8 (ct 2).
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig IX), reversing ftwork and direction. Finish sequence with W in front of M and slightly to his R, join R hands above W head, L on own hip. both facing ctr.

## X. ENLARGING CIRCLE

- Both begin R and move fwd with 3 small walking steps (R-L-R), tap L with a slight bend of knees.
- 3-4 Both begin L and move bkwd with 3 longer walking steps (R-L-R) to enlarge circle; tap R with slight bend of knees.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig X).
- 9-10 M step in place and assist W to turn once CW under joined R hands. W step R-L-R (cts 1, 2, 1); both stamp L (ct 2), W no wt.

- 11-12 Repeat action of meas 9-10 (Fig X), W reversing ftwork and direction.
- 13-16 Repeat action of meas 9-12 (Fig X). On last turn CW, W finish facing ptr, back to ctr.

## XI. STAMP, PIVOT AND AROUND PARTNER

- 1-2 Both stamp R diag fwd across L (in semi crouched pos) and clap own hands in front (cts 1, 2), stamp R to R side, opening both arms sdwd (cts 1, 2).
- 3-4 Both pivot CCW (cts 1, 2), step R in place facing ptr (cts 1, 2)
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig XI).
- 9-12 M fold arms in front of chest, W place hands on hips.
  With 4 Step slap steps move fwd passing R shoulders.
- 13-15 With 4 Jump-hop steps, move around ptr, passing L shoulders, and return to place.
- Step L to R (ct 1), hold (ct 2). Ptrs face, W inside with back to ctr.

## XII. STEP-SWING, STEP-HOP

Ptrs move together in LOD.

- M step fwd R (begin CW turn on ct 1), hop R and swing L ft across R (ct 2); step-hop L, swing R across L, completing turn (cts 1, 2). Arms follow swinging ft.
- Beginning R, move fwd in LOD with 3 walking steps (R-L-R) (cts 1, 2, 1), turn 1/2 CCW, stamp L twd RLOD (ct 2).

  Open arms in strong gesture on stamp.
- 1-4 W dance same sequence with opp ftwork and turn.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig XII) moving RLOD, reversing ftwork and turn. M begin L. W R.
- 9-12 <u>M</u> dance 2 Prysiadkas.

  <u>W</u> dance 2 Toe-toe-Kick steps.
- Hook R elbows, L arm arched high; with 8 quick walking steps (1 step to a ct) turn CW in place. Finish sequence with W on MR, both facing ctr.

## XIII. SINGLE CIRCLE AND COUPLE TURN

- 1-16 All join hands in single circle, and without backing out, move in LOD with 32 running steps.
- 17-31 Ptrs assume Hungarian turn pos, turn CW in place with small running steps. Finish sequence M on inside of circle, back to ctr; release ptr.
- Join inside hands (MR-WL). M turn W CW under joined hands to end in pose, outside hands arched high.