

## Feiar

(Norway)

Feiar means literally "Chimney Sweep" and falls, therefore, in the category of Norwegian occupational dances harking back to a time and place when the periodic "reconditioning" of chimneys constituted an important service on the part of those who followed this trade as a means of livelihood. The steps analyzed in Figure I, are suggestive of the lateral motions of sweeping out chimneys that have become clogged with soot while those of Figure II are suggestive of the rotary motions employed for the same purpose.

**Formation:** Any even number of couples in a double circle, facing CCW, M on L of partner, inside hands joined at shoulder level, outside hands on hips, thumbs to the front. Couples are numbered 1 and 2 in a CCW direction so that couples 2 are in front of couples 1 with whom they dance in Figure II, thus forming several double minor sets of two couples within the large circle.

### Figure I

- A.
- |   |        |  |
|---|--------|--|
| 1 | 1&, 2& | Beginning on outside foot (M L, W R), couples progress CCW around circle with 1 change step in line of direction, partners facing and swinging joined arms backward. |
| 2 | 1&, 2& | 1 change step, continuing in line of direction, partners turning back to back and swinging joined arms forward.  |
| 3 | 1&, 2& | 1 change step as done in meas 1.   |
| 4 | 1,2    | 2 walking steps forward (M R, W L), partners releasing joined hands to face CW, turning toward each other and clapping own hands together on ct &.                   |
- B.
- 1-4
- Beginning on outside foot (M R, W L), couples progress CW around the circle with 4 change steps, alternately facing and turning back to back as in Part A. M free L foot on last change step.

### Figure II

- A.
- 5-8
- Couple 2 turns back to face couple 1. Couples join R hands across to form a R hand mill. W hold skirts with outside hands, M outside hands on hip. All begin L to dance 8 step-hops CW. All clap own hands together and face about, each turning R, on last ct of &.
- B.
- 5-8
- All beginning L, couples 1 and 2 dance L hand mill with 8 step-hops CCW. W step L instead of hopping on last ct & to free R foot for repeat of dance.

Repeat Figures I and II as many times as desired with Couples 1 progressing forward one place in the original line of direction while Couples 2 drop back one place to dance in front of the next Couple 1. This progression is made with the M of each couple 2 releasing hands and separating slightly to dance the first change step of Figure I backward while each couple 1 dances as before, moving forward between them, the figure is continued as in Figure I. Thus the entire dance develops into a "mixer" with new couples dancing in Figure II each time it is repeated.