FINSTERAUER LÄNDLER (GERMANY)

Finsterauer Landler is a couple dance from lower Bavaria and can be seen at local dances. It was learned by Morry Gelman from folk dance groups in Munich. This form of landler with the woman turning under joined hands while the man circles her is found in various forms in the Bayerischer Wald, a region in lower Bavaria along the Czech and upper Austrian Borders.

Pronunciation: FIN-ster-ow-er LAHND-ler

Record: Festival 33EP FEP-502, side A, band 1 3/4 meter

Formation: Cpls facing ptnr with inside hands joined and held back twd RLOD, elbows straight. M back to center. No circle necessary.

Steps: Single step - Walking steps done on ct 1 of each 3/4 meas.

Simple balance step - Step L to side (ct 1); touch R beside L, no wt (ct 2); hold (ct 3). If two are done, the next would start with the R.

Meas

Introduction: 4 meas.

Part I. BALANCE, W TURN, MAN AROUND W.

A 1,2 Do 2 Simple balance steps in place (begin ML, WR).

Joined hands swing through fwd & back, with straight arms.

- 3,4 Moving slightly in LOD, joined hands are swung through, turning W once CW to face ptnr again. Hands are swung to a fwd position (pointing twd LOD) at completion of W's turn. W's step: 2 steps for the turn (ct 1,hold,3), plus one Simple balance step (R,touch). Man's step: step L to side (ct 1,2), close R (ct 3), repeat. All steps are small.
- 5-8 Partners will make one circle around each other, moving CW. At the same time W will make 2 turns CCW under the joined hands. M's arm remains nearly straight as he leads the W's turns. M's step: 4 Single walking steps, moving OUT (L), in RLOD (R), IN (L), in place (R beside L).

 W's step: step L (ct 1), close R to L (ct 2,3); L, close R; L, close R; L, touch R, no wt. NOTE to the Man, the joined hands will be moving in large CCW circles; coming down and across the bottom of the circle four times, on the first ct of meas 5,6,7,8. Hands make 3½ circles, ending in original pos, held out to side, pointed twd RLOD.
- 9-16 REPEAT meas 1-8 above, exactly.

Interlude

1-4 Repeat action of Part I, meas 1-4, except turn W 1½ CW, to end in varsouvienne pos, both facing LOD.

continued ...

Part II. FORWARD WALTZ

B 1-8 Both beginning L, waltz fwd in LOD, moving slightly in on first meas, out on second, etc. On meas 8, release hands and turn in (M to R, W to L) to face ptnr, ft together.

Part III. CLAPPING

9,10 Clap own hands 3 times (ct 1,2,3); clap both hands with ptnr (ct 4), clap own hands (ct 5), clap both with ptnr (ct 6).

11-16 REPEAT meas 9,10 above 3 more times (4X TOTAL), except stop on ct 4 of last time (hold ct 5,6).

Dance repeats from beginning 3 more times.

Should believe strong in place therein

Notes by Ned Gault

Taught by Marian and Ned Gault
- as presented by Morry Gelman
at UOP Folk Dance Camp
Stockton, 1979

Taught by Marian and Ned Gault Camp Hess Kramer October, 1979