

LA JOTA SAN JOAQUINA

(Visayan)

Philippines

The "Jota" dances were very popular during the Spanish regime. This version from San Joaquin, Iloilo, is lively and colorful. Like the "La Jota Moncadeña", each dancer holds a pair of bamboo castanets in each hand.

COSTUME: The Girl wears Maria Clara style, and the Boy, barong tagalog, and black trousers.

MUSIC is divided into three parts: A, B, and C.

COUNT: One, two, three to a measure.

FORMATION: Partners face each other about six feet apart. When facing the audience, the Girl stands at partner's right side. One or more pairs may take part in this dance.

INTRODUCTION

Music Introduction.

(a) Step R foot forward, hands in front parallel to each other at waist level, elbows close to the waist, knuckles down, click castanets (ct. 1), knuckles up, click castanets (ct. 2), knuckles down, click castanets, (ct. 3) 1 M

(b) Put weight on L foot in rear, and close R foot to L. Click castanets with knuckles up (ct. 1), pause (cts. 2, 3) 1 M

— I —

Music A.

Partners face each other.

(a) Three sway balance steps with a close (R, L, R). Arms in 4th. position, R and L arm high alternately. Click castanets on every count 6 M

Continued...

(b) Three-step turn left in place. Click castanets in front of chest four times (cts. 1, 2, 3, 1), pause (cts. 2, 3) 2 M

(c) Repeat all (a and b) starting with L foot and turning right in (b) 8 M

— II —

Music B.

Partners face each other.

(a) Step R foot forward, forearms in front and parallel to each other at waist level, elbows close to the waist, knuckles down, click castanets three times (cts. 1, 2, 3) 1 M

(b) Put weight on L foot in rear and close R foot to L. Click castanets once, knuckles up (ct. 1) pause (cts. 2, 3) 1 M

(c) Face left so that partners turn R shoulders toward each other. Four waltz steps sideward, R and L alternately (toward and away from partner); L arm in 5th. position clicking castanets on every count, R hand on waist 4 M

Partners face each other.

(d) Repeat (a) and (b) 2 M

(e) Partners face right, so that L shoulders are toward each other. Repeat (c) waltzing inward and outward alternately six times, R arm in 5th. position, L hand on waist. Click castanets on every count 6 M

Partners face each other.

(f) Repeat (a) and (b) 2 M

— III —

ESE-ESE

Music C.

Partners face each other.

(a) Step R foot sideward (ct. 1), step L foot across the R, in rear (ct. 2), step R foot sideward (ct. 3). Click castanets in front of chest (ct. 1) pause (cts. 2, 3) 1 M

(b) Stamp L foot in front (no weight). Click castanets in front of chest on (ct. 1), pause (cts. 2, 3) 1 M

Continued..

- (c) Repeat (a) and (b) two more times, to left and right .. 4 M
- (d) Three-step turn left, to proper places. Click castanets in front of chest four times (cts. 1, 2, 3, 1) pause (cts. 2, 3) 2 M
- (e) Repeat all (a-d) but making a half turn left, right, left when stamping in (b) and turning right in (d) to proper places . 8 M

— IV —

Music A.

Partners face each other.

- (a) Repeat figure I (a) moving counterclockwise to partner's place 6 M
- (b) Repeat figure I (b). Finish facing each other 2 M
- (c) Repeat all (a) and (b). Finish in proper places 8 M

— V —

Music B.

Partners face each other.

- (a) Waltz steps sideward R and L, arms in lateral position moving sideward right and left with a forearm turn, click castanets on every count (cts. 1, 2, 3) 2 M
- (b) Waltz turn right obliquely forward, covering one side of an imaginary square, click castanets in front of chest four times (cts. 1, 2, 3, 1), pause (cts. 2, 3). Finish the turn in one line facing each other, Girl facing away, Boy facing audience ... 2 M
- (c) Repeat (a) and (b) going to partner's place 4 M
- (d) Repeat all (a-c) starting with L foot and turning left in (b). Finish in proper places 8 M

— VI —

Music C.

Partners face left.

(a) Repeat figure III (a) and (b) moving obliquely sideward right. (See diagram below) 2 M



(b) Repeat (a) to left, making small steps only 2 M

(c) Repeat (a) to right, taking big steps so that dancers finish in their partner's place 2 M

(d) Repeat figure III (d) 2 M

(e) Repeat all (a-d), but making a half turn left, right, left when stamping and turning in (d) finish facing each other 8 M

SALUDO

Music Finale.

(a) Both execute three-step turn right in place, click castanets 3 times (cts. 1, 2, 3) 1 M

(b) Girl: point L foot in front, R arm in reverse "T" position, L hand on waist (cts. 1, 2, 3) 1 M

Boy: Step L foot forward, arms as in figure II (a) click castanets on (ct. 1), pause (cts. 2, 3) (1 M).