

**LAOTA (LA JOTA)**  
(Negros Occidental)

*Philippines*

"Laota" is a contraction of "La Jota". The Jota dances were very popular during the Spanish regime. This version from Canonoy, Hinigaran, Negros Occidental is comparable in its pattern to the other Jota dances from Luzon which are gay and lively.

- SOURCE:** This dance with its music is contributed by Lucina Zulueta of Payao, Binalbagan, Negros Occidental. Lucina with her ptr Valentin Gentilizo performed the dance which they remembered well.
- CUSTUME:** G wears Maria Clara costume or Mascota skirt and camisa with stiff panuelo. B wears barong tagalog and black or dark colored trousers.
- MUSIC:** 3 A,B,C,D  
4
- COUNT:** 1,2,3 to a M
- FORMATION:** Ptrs stand opp each other about 6 ft apart. G stands at ptrs R when facing audience. One or more pairs may participate.

**INTRODUCTION**

**MUSIC Introduction**

Ptrs face audience

- (a) Step R,L ft fwd (cts 1,2), step R bwd (ct 3), arms down at sides swinging naturally with the music ..... 1 M
- (b) Step L ft bwd and bow, pointing R ft in front, opening arms in 2nd pos palms up (cts 1,2), point R ft close to L in 3rd pos at the same time turning to face ptr arms down at sides (ct 3) ..... 1 M

**I**

**MUSIC A**

- (a) Step R ft swd (ct 1), brush L fwd (ct 2), step L close to R (ct 3), step R swd (ct 1), point L close to R in 3rd pos (cts 2,3), arms in 4th pos R arm high ..... 2 M
- (b) Repeat (a) to L starting L ft, reverse pos of arms ..... 2 M
- (c) Walts turn R about beginning R ft moving halfway around CW to ptrs place (use 2 waltz steps), arms in fwd bend pos with a forearm turn R and L, finish facing each other .... 2 M
- (d) 3 stamps (R,L,R) in place, arms down at sides ..... 1 M
- (e) Bow to ptr, arms in 2nd pos palms up (cts 1,2), trunk up arms down (ct 3) ..... 1 M
- (f) Repeat (a-e), finish in original places ..... 8 M

**II**

**MUSIC B**

Ptrs face each other

- (a) Take 4 waltz steps (R,L,R,L) moving diag fwd R passing by L shoulders, arms in lateral pos moving swd R and L alternately ..... 4 M
- (b) Take 2 waltz steps (R,L) moving diag bwd to proper places, arms as in (a) ..... 2 M
- (c) 3 stamps (R,L,R) turning R about to orig places, finish with ft together facing ptr, arms down at sides (cts 1,2,3), bow to ptr arms in 2nd pos palms up (cts 1,2), trunk up arms down at sides (ct 3) ..... 2 M
- (d) Repeat (a-c) beginning L ft moving diag fwd L passing by R shoulders, reverse the turn in (c) ..... 8 M

*continued...*

### III

#### MUSIC C

Ptrs face each other

- (a) Make a 1/4 turn R pivoting on L ft, at the same time pointing R ft diag fwd (ct 1,2), point R close to L in 3rd pos (ct 3), G L hds holding skirt, B on waist, R arm in 5th pos . . . . . 1 M
- (b) Repeat (a) 2 more times finishing with R shoulders twd each other . . . . . 2 M
- (c) Stamp R ft (wt on it) to face ptr, hds down at sides . . . . . 1 M
- (d) Repeat (a-b) starting L ft pivoting on R ft and turning L, reverse pos of arms . . . . . 3 M
- (e) Step L ft close to R to face ptr at the same time bow, arms in 2nd pos (cts 1,2), trunk up, arms down at sides (ct 3) . . . . . 1 M
- (f) Brush-step turn R, arms in 4th pos R arm high . . . . . 4 M
- (g) Repeat (f) to L, reverse pos of arms . . . . . 4 M

### IV

#### MUSIC D

Ptrs face L (R shoulder twd each other)

- (a) Take 3 Espunti steps (pivot on R, point L) moving to ptrs place finishing at ctr facing each other, arms in reverse "T" pos doing the "Kumintang" . . . . . 3 M
- (b) Pivoting on R ft turn L about and stamp L ft (no wt) (cts 1,2,3), finishing in bck to bck pos . . . . . 1 M
- (c) Still pivoting on R ft repeat (a) moving to orig place . . . . . 3 M
- (d) Turn L to face ptr and bow as in fig III (e) . . . . . 1 M
- (e) Do-si-do with 4 waltz steps (R,L,R,L) fwd passing by R shoulders (4 M), 4 waltz steps bwd passing by L shoulders (4 M), arms in "hayon-hayon" R arm in front alternately with L . . . . . 8 M

### SALUDO

Ptrs face audience

- (a) Repeat Introduction (a) (cts 1,2,3) . . . . . 1 M
- (b) Repeat Introduction (b) (cts 1,2), hold (ct 3) . . . . . 1 M