

LOS LLAMEROS

(Peruvian)

Los Llameros is a dance from Pisac, in southern Peru. It is a dance of the llama herders. The economy of the Indian revolves around the llama that provides clothing and food for them. After a day of driving the animals on the altiplano (the high Andean plain), the men and women rest, eat and dance. When this dance is performed on festival occasions it will continue for hours, the figures being repeated many times, and in any order desired.

There is no set order to the figures as danced in the country. This dance has been arranged by a group in Cusco for better exhibition purposes. Each figure is danced but once. The typical Cusco or Pisac costume is worn. This dance was learned in Cusco by Frances "Ponchita" Bramhall who introduced it to Federation groups.

MUSIC

Records: Los Alameros, a "cut record" made from manuscript music. It is arranged for a set of three couples but may be used for a set of four couples by dancing the last circling figure a shorter time.

FORMATION

Couples form in a longways set as in Virginia Reel. The woman is on the right of her partner.

(X—Man)

X X X

Top of set→Audience

(O—Woman)

O O O

STEPS

Walking*, running*, and what will be called *basic step*, which is described as follows: standing on left foot, lightly stamp right foot in front of, and in line with left, without transferring weight to right, (ct. 1); return right foot to side of left foot with a closing step (ct. 2). Repeat same action starting with left foot. This step is described for the woman, the man starts the stamp with the left foot. Knees are bent on the stamp step and body sways with the movement. A decorated cord (honda) is worn around the neck and is grasped by each hand about ten inches from the ends. Fore arms are parallel with the floor. On the stamp step, the corresponding hand is pushed forward while the other hand moves backward toward the body.

MUSIC (2/4)	PATTERN
MEASURE	
A 1 - 18	Entrance: with 18 basic steps, M starting L foot, W, R foot, both lines move forward toward audience. Upon reaching positions, W turn R to face partner, M turn L to face partner.
Repeat	
A 1 - 12	I. a. All take 12 basic steps in place.
13 - 18	All take one turn in place with 4 walking steps, W turning R, M turning L. Again facing partners, take 2 basic steps in place, W starting with R foot, M with L foot. Take one turn in place with four walking steps, W turning L, M turning R.
B 1 - 16	b. With 16 basic steps, M starting L, W starting with R foot, advance toward partner, meet halfway between the lines, pass by R shoulders, move around partner and return to original positions, W turning R, M turning L to face partner.
17 - 22	Repeat turning figure as described in (a) (measures 13 - 18).
Repeat	
B 1 - 16	c. With 16 basic steps, change places with partner, passing by R shoulders. Upon reaching other side W turn R, M turn L to face partner.
17 - 22	Repeat turning figure as described in (a) (measures 13 - 18).
Repeat	
B 1 - 16	d. With 16 basic steps, return to original position, passing partner by R shoulders. Upon reaching other side W turn R, M turn L to face partner.
17 - 22	Repeat turning figure as described in (a) (measures 13 - 18).

(Concluded on next page)

MUSIC (2/4)	PATTERN
C 1 - 9	<p>II. This entire figure is performed with small running steps.</p> <p>a. The first W and the first M, with arms outstretched, go toward each other, meeting halfway between the lines. Facing partner, together turn clockwise a half turn and move backward into partner's previous position. The first W turns R and progresses down the line going behind second M's position and in front of the third M's position in a weaving figure. As she meets the second M, he turns L greeting her with arms outstretched. They remain facing each other while the W passes him. He completes one turn to the L. As the first W meets the third M on the inside of the set he greets her in a manner similar to that of the second M. Facing each other he turns to his R, completing the turn after she has passed. If there is a fourth couple the first W passes in back of the fourth M's position as done when meeting second M.</p> <p>The first M performs the same action as the first W, at the same time, with directions reversed. The first M and first W reach the ends of their respective lines at the same time and move toward each other meeting halfway between the lines. While facing each other they make a half turn to the L and move backward, each into own original line. The closing phrase of the music warns of 3 stamps by all dancers which are taken on the last measure.</p>
Repeat	
C 1 - 9	This figure is repeated with couple number two performing the action danced by couple number one.
Repeat	
C 1 - 9	This figure is repeated with couple number three performing the action danced by couple number one. As each figure is repeated the lines gradually move toward the top of the set by taking very small side steps.
D 1 - 32	<p>b. Lines face top of set, and with small running steps first W turns R, first M turns L, and all follow the leader of each line around the outside of the lines. Upon meeting at the bottom of the set M drop behind partner forming a single line. The first W leads all in a circle moving counterclockwise. Upon a signal from her all make a four step turn in place to L and continue on in the circle. As the line leaves the floor, each dancer takes a four step turn to R upon reaching exit</p> <p>Note: W bends slightly forward from the waist whenever she advances to meet her partner.</p>