

MARFUTA

(Byelorussia)

Marfuta (Mar FOO tah) is a Byelorussian dance-song arranged by Anatol Joukowsky to fit an available recording. The song tells about the search of a boy for his girl friend, Marfa (Martha). It was introduced by Mr. Joukowsky at the 1966 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp at Stockton.

MUSIC: Record: Bruno 50118 Side A, Band 4

FORMATION: A line of M facing a line of W, M backs to ctr. Dance does not require ptrs, but one line should not be too much longer than the other. Length of lines can be kept about the same by adjusting the space between the dancers. Leaders are at R end of M line and L end of W line. When free, W hands are on waist, palms out. M hands are clasped behind back.

STEPS AND STYLING: Russian Polka (2 to a meas): Step fwd on R, heel of ft making first contact with floor (ct 1); close L to R (ct 2); step fwd on R, again leading with heel (ct 2). Repeat action but begin with L (cts 3, 4).

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

4 meas

INTRODUCTION

I. LINES FACE

- A 1 MEN: With hands clasped behind back, step R to R side (ct 1); bend R knee slightly (ct 2); step L in front of R, allowing body to turn slightly to R (ct 3); bend L knee slightly (ct 4).
- 2 Step back onto R (ct 1); bend R knee slightly (ct 2); step L to L side (ct 3); bend L knee slightly (ct 4).
- 3 Step R in front of L, allowing body to turn slightly to L (ct 1); bend R knee slightly (ct 2); step back onto L (ct 3); bend L knee slightly (ct 4).
- 4 Stamp R a little to R side so ft are almost in stride pos (ct 1); hold (ct 2); stamp L with ft in stride pos (ct 3); hold (ct 4). Join hands with neighbors during stamps.

WOMEN: With hands on hips, step fwd on R twd M (ct 1, 2); place L heel fwd and also turn L shoulder twd M (cts 3,4). Repeat action of meas 1 but step on L and place R heel fwd (meas 2). Beginning R, walk 8 steps in a small 3/4 CW circle (meas 3,4). On last step, join hands with neighbors and be ready to move in CW direction. W at L end of W line may hold a handkerchief in extended L hand. M at R end of M line may have R hand raised.

II. RUSSIAN POLKA

- B 1-4 Beginning R, all dance 8 Russian Polka steps in CW direction. Leaders should try to stay opp each other. Lines end facing each other.

III. MEN CALL OUT AND WOMEN ANSWER

At this point, to catch the spirit of the dance, the dancers should actively participate with the vocalists. In the song, the boy calls out to the girls, "Girls, where are you?". The girls answer, "Here! Here!". The boy then says, "Marfa is not here". A phonetic pronunciation follows in the description.

- C 1 M step fwd on R twd W line (cts 1, 2); place L heel fwd, thrusting arms diag fwd and out, hands overhead (cts 3,4). With the record, M call out: "Dievooshki gdie je vi?". (Dee-EH-voo-shkee guh-DEH jeh vee). With hands on hips, W watch M.
- 2 M hold pos of meas 1 (Fig III). W wave to M with R hand while calling: "Toota! Toota!". (TOO-tah, TOO-tah). As "TOO" is said, rise on balls of ft and with R arm raised on high, flick R hand upward (ct 1). As "tah" is said, return heels to floor and relax R hand and arm (ct 2). Repeat action for cts 3,4. L hand is on hip.

MARFUTA (continued)

3-4 Beginning L, lines back away from each other with 8 small steps (1 to a ct). No wt on last step on R. M bring hands down to small of back. W end with hands joined in the line.

M sing or call: "A moyei Marfuti da nietoo toota". (Ah MOY-ay Mar-FOO-tee dah nee-EH-too TOO-tah).

IV. LINES FORWARD AND BACK

During these 4 meas the dancers sing twice the words given for meas 3-4 of Fig III.

D 1-2 Beginning R, all walk fwd 6 steps (1 to a ct). M stamp R (no wt) (meas 2, ct 3); lift bent R leg and slap top of thigh with R hand (ct 4). W stamp R (meas 2, ct 3); stamp L (ct 4).

3-4 Beginning R, all back up to place with 6 steps. Stamp R, L (meas 4, cts 3,4).

Dance is repeated 4 more times.