

MATEIXA D'ES FIGUERAL

(Mallorca, Spain)

SOURCE: Learned from native groups in Palma De Mallorca, 1954, by Madelynne Greene.

RECORD: Biscaye 103.

FORMATION: Partners stand facing each other about three feet apart. Arms at sides. Partners dance close together but without touching each other. The dance is sentimental and languid and at other times dynamic. The Mateixas are famous for their poetical melodies. This particular Mateixa symbolizes the gathering of the figs.

STEPS: Waltz Balance*, Jota*, Springing Step, Riding Step.

Music (3/4)	PATTERN
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Meas

1-8 STEP I. INTRODUCTION (Count three, one-two)

Bounce (ct 3) Bounce (ct 1,2) slightly to R.
 Bounce (ct 3) Bounce (ct 1,2) slightly to L.
 Bounce (ct 3) Bounce (ct 1,2) slightly to R.
 Bounce (ct 3) Bounce (ct 1,2) slightly to L.

Repeat above.

STEP II. (revolving to L in place).

9-11 A. L foot on floor is used as a pivot. R foot turns the body around by taking tiny steps as arms are slowly opening out, LH ending curved over head and R curved upward and out to R side. Turn to L slowly, one revolution, bend body fwd. This turn takes three measures.

12-13 B. With L shoulder to partner bend knees and crouch, R arm leading fwd and L following in same motion describing a fwd circle in a winding motion. This takes two measures. Pull back and repeat with R shoulder to partner; arms wind in same manner.
 14-15 Two measures. Straighten the body to a standing position and end in a pose - LH on hip, RH held above eyes with palm out (as though to shade eyes from sun). This takes one measure.
 16

STEP III. Waltz Balances - Revolving.

Still facing partner, arms curved upward as though holding a tray above head level.

- 17-20 A. Both balance in a waltz balance step to R, L, R, L, gradually revolving $3/4$ of a turn CCW, ending with L shoulders adjacent.
- 21-22 B. Tilt body to R as R heel is placed out on floor to R side, (ct 1,2) return toe to arch of supporting foot straightening body (ct 3). Repeat B.
- 23-24 Two waltz balances R and L (L shoulders still adjacent).

STEP IV. Waltz Balances - Facing Partner.

- 25-28 Four waltz balances. Body sways slightly to R and L, R and L.

STEP V. JOTA STEP TO SIDE.

- 29-30 With feet together bend knees (ct 1,2), hop on L, kick R foot out (ct 3), step R behind L (ct 4), step L to L (ct 5), step R in front of L (ct 6). Arms describe a fwd winding motion as in step II B. Dancers travel L on this step.

- 31-32 Repeat reversing footwork and direction. Arms move the same way for both steps. Don't reverse arms.

STEP VI. JOTA STEP BACKWARDS.

- 33-34 A. Repeat same footwork as in step V meas 29-30 but travel bckwds from partner.
- 35 B. Spring onto both feet (ct 1, 2), leap fwd onto L
36 foot (ct 3). Leap fwd onto R foot, knee bent, ending back to back with partner, R shoulders close to partner's, looking over R shoulder (ct 1). Hold this pose (ct 2,3.)

STEP VII. WALTZ BALANCES.

- 37-40 Step back onto L and do revolving $3/4$ turn to L, arms same as above. Waltz balance L, 1-2-3. Waltz balance R, 1-3-3. Step on L (ct 1), place R heel to side (ct 2), (body tilts to R) (ct 3). Place R toe to arch of L foot, body straightens (L shoulders are still adjacent).

STEP VIII. SPRINGING - CROSS STEP.

Music repeats the bounce theme of the INTRODUCTION. Dancers cross and change places back to back on this step on first measure and, without stopping, return to own place.

- 41-46 A. Spring onto L foot, R foot off floor and to R side with partners back to back (ct 3). Spring again to

L on L, close R to L - partners have changed places (ct 1,2).

B. Spring on L foot traveling to R with partners again back to back (ct 3). Spring again on L traveling to own R - partners are now in original places (ct 1,2).

Repeat A and B.

Repeat A and E.

NOTE: On A, L arm curves forward overhead; R curves in front - look over R shoulder. On B, reverse arms and head direction.

STEP II. A and B.

47-54 Repeat this step.

STEP III. A (Waltz Balances to L) B (Heel and Toe).

55-60 Repeat this step.

STEP IX. BOY IN PLACE -GIRL AROUND.

61-64

Placing LH close to L shoulder (elbow out to side) M pivots on L foot turning L, alternately placing R heel to side (ct 1,2) and toe to arch of L foot (ct 3). As he places heel to side, R arm is extended fully to the R side shoulder high (ct 1,2). On (ct 3) his RH falls lightly to his R shoulder. Simultaneously the W waltzes around the M with 8 steps starting on R. On first waltz her R arm is out to the R side, shoulder high, L elbow bent and LH near L shoulder. Arms positions are reversed on each succeeding waltz.

STEP V. JOTA STEP TO SIDE.

65-68 Repeat this step.

STEP VI. JOTA STEP BACKWARD.

69-72 Repeat this step. A and B.

STEP I. INTRODUCTION.

73-80 Repeat this step.

STEP II. REVOLVING TO LEFT IN PLACE.

81-88 Repeat this step. A and B.

STEP III. WALTZ BALANCES - REVOLVING.

89-96 Repeat this step. A and B.

STEP X. RIDING STEP.

- 97 A. Partners facing. Both step on L (ct 1); hop L
98 (ct 2); step R in front (ct 3). Step on L (ct 1);
hop on L (ct 2); touch R in back (ct 3). Partners
with shoulders adjacent pass each other and change
99 places while they: Spring on both ft (cts 1,2); hop
100 L as R kicks to side (ct 3); turn $\frac{1}{2}$ CW to step back
on R (ct 1); step L to side (ct 2); stamp R in place
(ct 3). No weight on R.
- 101-104 B. Reverse above footwork and travel back to original
places.

STEP V. JOTA STEP TO SIDE.

- 105-108 Repeat this step.

STEP VI. JOTA STEP BACKWARDS.

- 109-112 Repeat this step. A and B.

STEP I. INTRODUCTION.

- 113-120 Repeat this step.

STEP II. REVOLVING TO LEFT IN PLACE.

- 121-128 Repeat this step. A and B.

FINALE: Girl makes only a $\frac{1}{2}$ turn on the pivot step
and on the crouching fwd she remains in front
of partner so that they stand both facing
audience in final pose.