

EL PERICON

Uruguay

Source: "El Pericon" is claimed by the sister Republics of Argentina and Uruguay, for originally they were one country.

Students from this area, who participated in the Annual International House Festival at the University of California, taught Millie von Kinsky popular figures which she incorporated in the following version.

Music: Folkraft \_\_\_\_\_ - "El Pericon" (former "Bost" label record)

Formation: Double lines of couples (two couples to a line) all facing CCW. Line 1 on R, W on M's R; line 2 on L, W on M's L. Partners inside hands joined at shoulder height. W holds skirt up whenever hands are free; M free hands in fists (low) at back of thigh.

Steps: Waltz, El Pericon step: Step L (ct 1), step R toe beside L instep and simultaneously raise L heel (ct 2), come down sharply on L heel (ct 3). (Step may also start R.)

NOTE: El Pericon step is used through the dance unless otherwise indicated; M's action exaggerated, W's more subdued.

Meas. Introduction

1-3 Line 1 begin M's L, W's R; line 2 begin M's R, W's L. Both lines of couples dance fwd CCW.

4 Turn to face partner. M holds hands, palms up, at W shoulder level; W places fingers on M palms (M are now back to back).

5 All dance sdwd CCW.

6 All dance sdwd CW.

7-8 Repeat action of meas 5-6.

9 Hold. M equalize wt.

I. Picture (All M and W begin R.)

1-2 Line 1: M step behind W into Varsouvienne position, raise joined L above W's head to form the frame of the picture. W turns slightly to look at M over her R shoulder, joined R near M's R hip.

Line 2: Both M and W begin L. Simultaneously M steps behind W's R shoulder into Varsouvienne position (facing CCW), raise joined R as W turns slightly to look at M over her L shoulder. Joined L are near M's L hip.

3-7 All couples, in picture formation, move slightly fwd (CCW).

II. Sway, Turn and Star

1-2 a. All raise joined hands from hip position (W turning slightly to face CCW) to return to Varsouvienne position.

3-8 In Varsouvienne position all dance to face opposite couples, swaying from side to side.

9-12 Line 1: M raise joined L over W head and turn her (CW) to face him.

Line 2: M raise joined R over W head and turn her (CCW) to face him.

1-4 b. All release hands. Each couple form a R hand star. All finish facing opposite couple, W on M's R.

III. Ladies' Chain (All M dance in place.)

1-2 W dance twd opposite W.

3-4 W join R to pass opposite W (making approximately a half circle). M offer L as opposite W approaches.

5-8 M turns opposite W around him by bringing their joined L over his head.

9-16 Repeat action of Fig. III, meas 1-8, to end W in own place, M back to center.

IV. The Crown and Waltz

1-8 a. M kneel on L facing partner. M's L and W's R joined, W dance (CW) once around M.

9-10 As W returns to place M rises to assume ballroom position.

1-8 b. Turning CW, waltz CCW in circle. Finish M facing LOD (CCW) in original position in circle.

V. Weave and Circle

1 a. M release partner and face center. W dance in place.

2 All M in circle join hands in high arches. W hold skirts and move to partner's R shoulder to prepare for WEAWE.

EL PERICON (continued)

- Meas.  
3-15 M (holding arches) dance in place. W weave in and out of arches (CCW) around the circle, ending on own partner's R.  
1-8 b. All dancers join hands in circle (facing center) and dance halfway around CCW.  
VI. Grand Right and Left, Circle and Basket  
1-7 a. M face W on R, join R and dance Grand R and L (M CCW, W CW) completing circle to meet partner in own place.  
1-8 b. W move twd center, join hands to form inside circle, and dance CCW. M join hands to form outside circle and dance CW.  
9 W retain circle formation. M bend under W arms (own partner on R) and join hands behind W waist. (W hold joined hands across M shoulders.)  
1-4 c. Circle CCW.  
5-8 Circle CW.  
VII. Double Star and Circle to Form National Flag  
1 a. All couples face center in two lines.  
2-5 All extend R to star with opposite couple (2 couple star). Couple 2 of  
6-10 Line 1 and couple 1 of Line 2 extend L to star in center while end couples each form L hand star (1 couple star).  
11-14 Repeat action of Fig. VII - a, meas 2-5. End in original position.  
1-2 b. All couples form double circle facing CCW, inside hands joined. (M removes kerchief from neck.)  
3-8 M holds one corner (end) of kerchief with L; W holds other end with R. Partners hold kerchief high as they dance fwd CCW. Kerchiefs should alternate, one white and one blue.  
Hold bow on final chords.  
NOTE: In general dancing, if kerchief is not available M and W may snap fingers (M L, W R).

-- presented by Millie von Konsky

Why not cultivate a hobby to go with your  
dancing--music, crafts, photography, books,  
travel lore, customs, costumes, cooking, etc?  
You'll enjoy the dancing more.

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Vigor is not the sole test of good dancing.  
Politeness, smooth transition, consideration  
for national taste, consideration of other  
dancers -- are a few important items.