

PORT AN FHÓMHAIR

DISC - DESCRIPTIONS

HARVEST TIME JIG

(Ireland)

Port an Fhómhair

RECORD: Any 4x64 or 8x32 bar Irish jig. The record we used at International House was Folkdance Underground Vol. 5, Side II, Band 3, "Muirland Willie Jig", which is actually Scottish but sounds Irish since it uses accordin and drums.

SOURCE: Learned from Jack Enright in Chicago, 1977.

RHYTHM: 6/8, counted here as &, 1, 2, 3.

FORMATION: Lines of three (preferably 1 man between 2 women, although recreational folk dance groups may have some threes with 1 woman between 2 men to get more people dancing) with nearest hands joined at shoulder level. Alternate lines face CCW around the circle, others face CW.

STEPS: Threes: Hop on L ft (last ct of previous measure), step on R ft (ct 1), step on L ft (ct 2), step on R ft (ct 3). Following step begins with hop on R ft, step L-R-L. Threes may be done moving fwd, bkwd, or in place. When in place, hop on L ft, step R behind L ft, step L in front of R ft, step R behind L ft. Following three begins hop on R ft, etc.

Seven: Moving to R, hop on R ft (last ct of previous measure), step to R on L ft, crossing behind R ft (ct 1), step to R on R ft (ct 2), step to R on L ft, crossing behind R ft (ct 3). Step to R on R ft (ct &), step to R on L ft, crossing behind R ft (Meas 2, ct 1), step to R on R ft (Meas 2, ct 2), step to R on L ft, crossing behind R ft (Meas 2, ct 3). To dance a "seven" to L, reverse ftwk.

Swing: Ptrs join L hands, W's R hand on M's L shoulder, M's R hand (slipped through crook of ptr's L elbow) on W's waist. Stepping slightly to own L so that R hips are almost adjacent and outside of R ft is next to outside of ptr's R ft. Leaning away from ptr and pretending R ft is on a scooter, push with L ft and let R ft follow along. This is a "buzz step" swing.

STYLE: When hands are not joined they hang loosely at sides, never on hips. All the steps are done in a relaxed manner, up on the balls of the feet.

PATTERN

Meas	Chord introduction during which M bow and W curtsey
I. FORWARD AND BACK	
1-2	With two "threes", facing lines move fwd twd each other.
3-4	With two "threes", lines move bkwd into place.
5-8	Repeat action of Fig I, Meas 1-4 exactly.
II. SEVENS AND THREES	
9-10	End dancers join hands to form a circle of six people. Dance one "seven" to the R, beginning with hop on R ft.
11-12	Dance two "threes" in place, beginning with hop on L ft.
13-16	Repeat action of Fig II, Meas 9-12, reversing direction and using opposite ftwk.

(CONTINUED)

III. STARS

- 17-20 Releasing hands from circle and joining R hands in ctr to form a star, dance fwd (CW) with 4 "threes". Release hands and turn individually 1/2 turn CW on Meas 20.
- 21-24 Joining L hands in ctr to form a star, repeat action of Fig III, Meas 17-20, moving CCW and turning individually 1/4 turn CCW on Meas 24 to face ctr.

IV. SEVENS AND THREES

- 25-32 Rejoining hands in a circle of six people, repeat action of Fig II, Meas 9-16, reversing direction and ftwk (circling to L first, beginning with hop on L ft).

V. STARS

- 33-40 Repeat action of Fig III, Meas 17-24, reversing hands and direction (L hand star first). On Meas 40, reform lines of three in original position.

VI. SWING

- 41-48 Ctr dancer taking R hand ptr in Irish "swing" position, "swing" for 16 "buzz" steps, moving CW around each other.
- 49-56 Ctr dancer now takes L hand ptr and repeats action of Fig VI, Meas 41-48 exactly. On last measure or two, release ptr and reform lines of three with inside hands joined at shoulder height.

VII. FORWARD AND BACK AND PASS THROUGH

- 57-60 Repeat action of Fig I, Meas 1-4 exactly.
- 61-64 Releasing hands, dance fwd 4 "threes", passing through the opposite line of three by passing R shoulders with the person you are facing. Stop in front of the next line of three and rejoin inside hands.

Repeat entire dance from the beginning with same ptrs but facing a new line of three people.

As Taught At International House Of The University Of
Chicago By Frank And Dee Alsberg, March 1978

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