

Tinikling
(Phillippines)

Commentary: The natives of the Philippines created this dance to typify the way the native "Tickling Bird" hops in and out of the thick undergrowth in order not to get its feet caught. The natives created this difficult dance to an old-time waltz tempo; today this dance is one of the most popular and difficult folk dances of that part of the world. While two bangers slap two bamboo poles together, the dancers hop in and out of the poles and - like the bird - they also try not to get their feet caught.

Formation: Two people kneel at either end of two bamboo poles, about 8' long and 3" in diameter, resting on wooden crossbars, 2" by 2" by about 2½' long. The bangers slap the bamboo poles together on the first beat of the waltz rhythm, then they slide them about 15" from the center of the crossbar and hit them twice against the bars. Dancers dance in between the poles when they are apart, and outside the poles when they are together in a hopping step to be described below.

Basic Step: Fast Waltz-hop.

Part I

- 1-4 Partners advance twd the poles in four waltz steps, girl on the M's R. both starting on R feet. M's hands on hips, girl's hands extended to R side on first waltz; out to L side on second step, etc.
- 5 1 Partners face each other. M touches L toe in between poles, girl touches R toe in between poles.
- 2 Poise L toe above poles and hold.
- 3 Poise L toe above poles and hold.
- 6-8 Repeat measure 5 of Part I.

Part II

Partners face each other, girl does counterpart of steps described, partners hold hands.

- 1 1 M should have L side to poles, girl has R side to poles. Hop on L foot between poles.
- 2 Hop on R foot between poles.
- 3 Hop on L foot out on other side of poles.
- 2 1 Hop on R foot between poles.
- 2 Hop on L foot between poles.
- 3 Hop on R foot out on other side of poles.

3-16 Repeat measures 1-2 of Part II.

Part III

Girl continues step of Part I, man does step as described in Part II, measure 1. M's hands on hips, girl's hands out to side.

- 1 M repeats measure 1 of Part II.
- 2 M runs down the side of the pole (R, L, R) passing his partner pivoting on the last step to put his L side to poles.

- 3-16 Repeat measure 1 of Part III, ending in original position facing partner.

Part IV

M repeats step of Part I, girl runs around him. M's hands on hips, girl's hand out to side.

- 1 Girl crosses poles R and L feet inside poles, L foot comes out on opposite side.
 2 Girl runs down the side of the poles passing partner (L, R, L), pivoting on the last step to put her R side to poles.
 3-16 Repeat measures 1-2 of Part IV, ending in original position facing partner.

Part V

- 1-16 Repeat measures 1-2 of Part II.

Part VI

Partner's hands on own hips. Girls do counterpart to steps described.

- 1 1 Hop on L foot inside poles.
 2 Hop on L foot inside poles, pivoting a half-turn so that partner's backs are to each other.
 3 Step out on far side of poles on R foot.
 2-8 Repeat measure 1 of Part VI.
 9-16 Repeat measures 1-2 of Part II.

Part VII

Partners facing each other, hands swinging freely at sides, hands crossed when dancers are between the poles hands overhead when dancers are outside the poles.

- 1 1 Partners hop on both feet inside of poles.
 2 Partners hop on both feet inside of poles.
 3 Partners hop on both feet outside of poles.
 2-8 Repeat measure 1 of Part VII seven more times. On the eighth measure turn a half-circle to the R while in the air so that partner's backs are to each other.
 9-16 Repeat measure 1 of Part VII. Turn a half-circle to R on measure 16 while in the air in order to end in the original position.

Part VIII

- 1 M crosses the poles doing measure 1 of Part II, girl does one waltz step in place outside the poles.
 2 Partners join hands. M hops between the poles, R, L; back out L on far side of the poles, Girl hops between the poles L, R, back out of poles across from her partner's L.
 3 Partners holding, man hop between the poles L, R, back out of poles on same side, L. Girl hops between the poles R, L, back out on same side of poles, R.

- 4-16 Repeat measures 2-3 of Part VIII. Partners stay on opposite sides of the poles throughout this step.

Part IX

- 1-16 Girl repeats measures 1-2 of Part II throughout this step. M repeats measure 2 of Part III, then measure 1 of Part II eight times, ending up in back of his partner, both facing in the same direction.

Part X

- 1-16 Partners, holding hands out to side, repeat measures 1-2 of Part II. Bow to the audience.