

TSIGANOCHKA

(Russia)

Tsiganochka is one of the favorite ballroom dances of various Russian-American groups throughout the country. It is also called the Russian Two-Step or Karapiet.

The form given for the dance is the one commonly used by the Russian colony and folk dancers in the San Francisco Bay Region.

MUSIC: Records: Folk Dancer 1058; Kismet 101-A - "Two-Step"
Piano: Beliajus, Finadar: "Dance and Be Merry",
Vol I, "Armenian Dance, Karapiet."

FORMATION: Double circle, cpls in closed pos, M back to ctr.
Both look twd LOD (CCW).

STEPS AND STYLING: Walk*, Pas de Basque*, Two-step*
When hands are free, place on hips with closed fist.
This dance should be done in a rather sober and dignified manner as contrasted with the more exuberant Russian dances.

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

Measures

I. TOUCH AND WALK

- 1 With wt on inside ft, touch ML-WR toe fwd (ct 1), hold (ct 2); touch ML-WR toe bwd and slightly swd (ct 3), hold (ct 4).
- 2 Beginning ML-WR, walk 3 steps fwd in LOD (cts 1, 2, 3); close MR-WL ft (no wt), and without changing pos, face RLOD (ct 4). Raise joined hands (ML-WR) in arc at the rear, and keep this pos while moving RLOD.
- 3-4 Beginning with touch of MR-WL toe, repeat action of meas 1-2, moving in RLOD (CW). Finish facing ptr, release hold and join inside hands at shoulder height with elbows bent, outside hands on hips.

II. PAS DE BASQUE AND TURN

Move in LOD (CCW) throughout this Fig.

- 1 Pas de basque to ML-WR, turning away from ptr (cts 1 & 2); pas de basque to MR-WL, turning twd ptr (cts 3 & 4). Joined hands move easily fwd and back at shoulder level during this action.
- 2 Release ptr and progressing in LOD, turn outward (M-CCW, W-CW) with 4 steps (M-LRLR, W-RLRL).
- 3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig II).

III. WALK AND TWO-STEP

- 1 Join inside hands at shoulder height and walk fwd 3 (M-LRL, W-RLR); stamp MR-WL heel (no wt) beside supporting ft, turning inwd to face opp direction (RLOD). Keep same hands joined.
- 2 Beginning MR-WL, repeat action of meas 1 (Fig III) moving RLOD. Finish facing ptr.
- 3 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1.
- 4 Take closed pos and beginning ML-WR, turn CW progressing LOD (CCW) with "2 quick two-steps" (cts 1&2, 3&4).

Repeat dance from the beginning.