

Schneider Zwiefache

GESUNGENE ZWIEFACHE

The charm of these songs and dances lies in the fact that 2/8 measures interchange with 3/8 measures or 2/4 with 3/4. The Dunsings danced many of these dances on their 1961 European trip. Fritz Hergott, a Munich recreation leader, an expert folk dancer, with whom the Dunsings danced in 1961, has this to say about Zwiefache: "Zwiefacher (Two-Time) Bayrischer (Bavarian) Uebern Fuass (over the foot) and other names stand for a very peculiar dance. It looks unpretentious: Regular dance position, plain turning right or left about, no particular arm figures, no partner change, no stress to keep in a circle formation. Yet it is fascinating from the first step. Its character is the change between even and uneven measures, which is always symmetrical, even though recognizable only after many measures or even not before the repetition. This living rhythm gives pleasure and challenge to the dancer. The novice may enjoy the simple and very regular rhythm, for instance in the 'Alte Kath,' the expert waits alertly for surprises, which the 'Verzwickten' (Intricate ones) offer. On most records (EP 56906, 55908, 56910, 56909) you will find the comparatively simple forms. The Zwiefacher is one of the very last 'Folk Dances' of our times. It is being danced everywhere without push or suggestions from folk dance leaders or people interested in the preservation of folk activities." Zwiefaches are being danced today in southern Germany, including the Black Forest, Bavaria, Frankonia, Wuerttemberg. Many folk songs of the 16th and 17th century, show this typical Zwiefache rhythm.

Otto Ebner who made this and three other records of Zwiefache comes from Daggendorf, Bavaria, where even today NEW ZWIEFACHE are being created. He has the right rhythm within himself. He is known far beyond the borders of his native Bavaria thru his Folk-music Broadcast over the Bavarian radio stations.

Record: Tanz EP 56906

Steps: W - Waltz (three steps) D - Dreher (pivot)
3/4 time, one step on each quarter 2/4 time, one step on each measure

Die Alte Kath / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - /
W W D D W W D D etc.

Schneider Zwiefacher

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D D W D D W W
/ - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - /
D D W D D W W
/ - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - /
D D W D D D W W
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D D W D D D W W

Eisenkailnest

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D D W W D D W W
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D W D W D D W W

Wirt von Stos

/ - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - /
W D D W D D W W
/ - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - /
W D D W D D W W

Miami Valley Folk Dancers
Dunsing Weekend, Feb. 23-24, 1964