

PANCHITA  
(Philippines)

PANCHITA (pahn-CHEE-tah) is a girl's name. The dance, so the story goes, was named after a lady called Panchita, who was considered the best dancer in San Narciso, Quezon province, Philippines, during her time. A festival dance, it was usually performed in honor of important visitors and high officials of the Army, government, and the clergy during the Spanish period.

Costume: Any old-styled Filipino costume.

Music: Piano: Francisca R. Aquino, Philippine Folk Dance, Vol. V, Manila, Philippines, 1966.  
Record: Mico MX-760-B, 3/4 meter.

Formation: Ptrs stand opp each other about six ft apart. When facing the audience, W stand at R side of ptr.

Steps: Sway balance with a hop  
Step R (L) diag fwd (cts 1,2), step L (R) across R(L) in front (ct 3), step R (L) diag bkwd (ct 1), hop on R (L) (cts 2,3).  
Waltz  
Step-swing

MeasPATTERNS

Introduction - Ptrs face audience.

1-2 Three-step turn R in place (cts 1,2,3), ft together and bow to audience (cts 1,2,3). W hold skirt, M place hands on waist.

Figure I

1 Step R sdwd (ct 1), close L to R(cts 2,3). W holds skirt, M places hands on waist.

2-4 Waltz L sdwd, L arm in reverse "T" pos, R arm bent fwd at shoulder level (1 meas). Repeat with opp ft, reverse pos of arms (1 meas). Turn L to face audience and step L in place (ct 1), step R close to L and pause (cts 2,3). W holds skirt, M places hands on waist (1 meas).

5-8 Face L, R shoulder twd audience. Repeat movements of Fig. I, meas 1-4, starting with L. Reverse pos of arms when doing the waltz steps R and L.

9-12 Starting with R, take four step-swings moving bkwd. W holds skirt, M places hands on waist.

13-16 Starting with R, take three waltz steps fwd. Arms in lateral pos, moving sdwd R and L alternately (3 meas). Pause, W holds skirts, M places hands on waist (1 meas).

17-32 Repeat all movements of Fig. I, meas 1-16.

PANCHITA (continued)

Figure II - Ptrs face each other.

- 1 Hop on R and at the same time point L in front, W holds skirt, M places hds on waist (cts 1,2,3).
- 2 Step L across R in rear (ct 1), step R sdwd (ct 2), step L close to R (ct 3), hds as in meas 1.
- 3-4 Repeat movements of Fig. II, meas 1-2.
- 5-8 Repeat movements of Fig. II, meas 1-4. Do not put wt on the R at the eighth meas.
- 9-16 W: Take four sway balance steps with a hop, R and L alternately. Arms in four pos, R & L arm high alternately.  
M: In the meantime, waltzes sdwd, R & L alternately eight times, clapping hds sdwd R & L alternately on cts 2,3 of every meas.
- 17-32 Repeat all movements of Fig. II, meas 1-16, M doing the W movements in meas 9-16 and vice versa.

Figure III

Repeat movements of Fig. I, meas 1-32.

Figure IV - Ptrs face each other

- 1 Waltz R obliquely fwd R to be in one line at ctr in back-to-back pos with W facing audience and M facing away, arms in lateral pos sdwd R.
- 2 Waltz L sdwd to be side by side with ptr by R shoulder, arms in third pos, L arm high. Finish the waltz step with ft apart (L ft sdwd and wt of body on it and R ft pointing sdwd), bend trunk slightly twd R and smile at each other.
- 3 Repeat movement of Fig. IV, meas 2, starting with R, taking bigger steps to be side by side with ptr by L shoulders, passing back-to-back. Reverse pos of arms and bending of trunk.
- 4 Ptrs face each other. Waltz L obliquely fwd L to end in one line at ctr in back-to-back pos with M facing audience and W facing away, arms in lateral pos sdwd L.
- 5 Waltz R sdwd to be side by side with ptr by L shoulders, arms in third pos, R arm high. Finish the waltz step with ft apart (R ft sdwd and wt of body on it and L ft pointing sdwd), bend trunk slightly twd L and smile at each other.
- 6 Waltz L sdwd to be side by side with ptr by R shoulders, passing back to back, arms in third pos, L arm high. Finish the waltz step as in movement of Fig. IV, meas 2, and bend trunk twd the pointing ft still smiling at each other.
- 7-12 Ptrs face each other. Repeat movements of Fig. IV, meas 1-6.
- 13-14 Repeat movements of Fig. IV, meas 1-2.
- 15-16 Waltz turn R to proper places. W holds skirt, M places hands on waist. Finish facing each other.
- 17-32 Repeat all movements of Fig. IV, meas 1-16.

Note: When waltzing sdwd, take bigger steps.

Saludo - Music Finale

- 1 meas & 2 cts Three-step turn R in place (cts 1,2,3), ft together and bow to each other (cts 1,2). W holds skirt, M places hands on waist.

Presented by Bernardo T. Pedere