

FAITHFUL BOY FRIEND OBEREK

(Poland)

This dance was taught to Lorraine and Jack Pinto by George Hovanski of Montreal, Canada, while he was here on a short visit to San Francisco. Mr. Hovanski used to dance this oberek at some of the Polish Canadian functions in and around Montreal.

MUSIC: Record: Rainbow 5023 (45 RPM) No introduction.

FORMATION: Circle of cpls facing LOD, W to M R, fists on hips. Whenever free, place fisted hands on hips, elbows slightly fwd, unless otherwise directed.

STEPS AND STYLING: Mazur Step: (An accented running step to 3/4 meter) Step L fwd with accent, bringing R ft up sharply in back with bend of knee (ct 1); take a small, unaccented step fwd with R (ct 2); step L fwd with slight accent (ct 3). Keep knees flexible to give an up-and-down movement to this step pattern. This step may also begin with R.

Heel Clicks: Step swd to own L (ct 1); close R ft to L (ct 2); hop on R, clicking heels together while ft are off the floor (ct 3). This step may also begin with R ft moving to R.

Foot Circling Step (M only)

Begin each pattern throughout the dance with ML-WR ft, unless otherwise directed.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures

I. AWAY AND TOGETHER

1-4 With 4 mazur steps, move fwd diag away from ptr.

5-8 Move diag fwd twd ptr with 3 mazur steps and finish facing ptr with 3 stamps (M-RLR, W-LRL).

9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8.

II. ELBOW TURNS

Both bend slightly fwd at hips during this pattern.

1-8 Hook R elbows (M L hand extended diag fwd at shoulder height with palm up, W L on hip) and cpl revolve CW with 7 mazur steps. With one mazur step, both sweeping L hand through, turn individually 1-1/2 turns CW to hook L elbows.

9-16 Cpl revolve CCW with 7 mazur steps. On meas 16 both face LOD and take Varsouvianna pos.

III. VARSOUVIANNA AND HANDS CROSSED

1-7 Cpl move fwd in LOD with 7 mazur steps.

8 Without releasing hands, M turn W 1/2 turn L (CCW) to finish ptrs facing with joined hands crossed at chest level. During this action M stamp in place while W dances one mazur step. Finish in single circle, M facing LOD, W RLOD.

9-16 Moving RLOD, M dance bwd, W fwd (M pulling W) with 7 mazur steps. On meas 16 M stamp RLR (cts 1, 2, 3); W stamp LR (cts 1, 2), hold (ct 3).

IV. HEEL CLICKS IN SQUARE

During this action bend slightly fwd, arms swinging loosely out on ct 1 and in by ct 3, crossing in front of body on the heel clicks. Keep steps very small to keep the square small.

1-3 Both begin with L ft and move to own L with 3 heel clicks, M twd ctr, W away from ctr.

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- 4 Turn 1/4 L (CCW) with one mazur step, to finish back to back. Clap vertically on ct 3 (R hand begin high and move dwn.)
- 5-7 Both begin R and move to own R with 3 heel clicks, back to back with ptr.
- 8 Repeat action of meas 4 (Fig IV), to finish face to face.
- 9-24 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig IV) two more times, alternating face to face and back to back in the square. Finish in opp places, M facing RLOD (CW), W facing LOD (CCW) in the circle. On meas 24, M stamp RLR (cts 1, 2, 3); W stamp RL (cts 1, 2), hold (ct 3). No clap on last ct.

V. ELBOW TURNS

- 1-16 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-15. On meas 16, stamp in place, taking shoulder-waist pos with M back to ctr.

VI. FOOT CIRCLING

Foot circling is done by the M only, while W dances a mazur step in place. This Fig is danced in place, slowly turning CCW. Cpl make only 2 complete turns during entire Fig.

- 1 In shoulder-waist pos, M step on L ft, bending L knee (ct 1); circle R ft, toe on floor, in a large CCW motion (cts 2, 3). Simultaneously, W dance one mazur step in place, beginning R ft. (Do not kick ft up in back.)
- 2 Beginning MR-WL, cpl dance one mazur step, turning slightly CCW in place.
- 3-24 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig VI) eleven more times. Finish with M back to ctr on last meas and take Varsouvianna pos, facing LOD (CCW).

VII. VARSOUVIANNA AND CIRCLE

- 1-4 Cpl move fwd in LOD with 4 mazur steps.
- 5-8 M dance 4 mazur steps in place, while he leads W as she circles him CCW with 3 mazur steps and with one mazur step turns under the joined hands to finish again in Varsouvianna pos.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig VII), but on last meas M stamp RLR while W continues with one more mazur step, turning 1-1/2 times. Finish with ptrs facing, M back to ctr. Release ptr.

VIII. HEEL CLICKS IN CIRCLE

- 1-3 Ptrs facing, flsts on hips, move LOD in circle with 3 heel clicks.
- 4 Turn 1/2 turn (M-CCW, W-CW) back to back with one mazur step.
- 5-8 Continue in LOD with 3 heel clicks and turn 1/2 turn (M-CW, W-CCW) to face ptr with one mazur step.
- 9-12 Dance 3 heel clicks in LOD, face to face. On meas 12, M stamp LR, W-RL (cts 1, 2), hold (ct 3).

IX. FINALE

- 1-14 W place hands behind back of head, M hold W in waist pos and dance 14 mazur steps turning CW and moving in LOD (CCW) in the circle.
- 15-16 M stamp RLR as he turns W to finish at his R, facing out of circle in pose: M L arm out (shoulder height, palm up), his R arm around W waist; W place both flsts on hips.