

Vesyolaya kadril – Весёлая кадрили

(Russia)

This dance is known under different names, such as Vesyolaya kadril (the merry quadrille), Zadornaya kadril (the reckless quadrille), or Moskovskaya kadril (quadrille from Moscow). It was written in 1968 by Viktor Temnov (music) and Oleg Levitskiy (text). The song is well-known all over Russia, and different dances are done to it.

This version of the dance is a typical social dance and can be characterized as a *bal'niy narodniy tanets*, literally a ballroom folk dance. It was first presented by Hennie Konings in Grossrussbach, Austria, in 2009. Note that the third stanza of this particular recording is not originally part of the song. It was written by the performing group Ozorniye Naigrishi. This stanza tells about the popularity of the quadrille in the Donetsk area, the home region of the group in eastern Ukraine, a multi-ethnic region with a large ethnically Russian population. This text is remarkable because originally the quadrille was not danced in the Ukraine.

Pronunciation: Vyeh SYOH-lah-yah kah-DREEL

Music: 4/4 meter *Russian and Ukrainian Songs and Dances* presented by Hennie Konings and Ensemble Ozorniye Naigrishi, Syncoop 5770 CD 304, Band 1

Formation: Cpls in a circle facing ctr, M on L, inside hands held in W-pos.

Steps & Styling: This is a typical “party dance” leaving much room for personal styling. Steps with R or L are not strictly prescribed and stamps and accents could be added at will. Also, movement of the free hand(s) is left for personal improvisation. The dance actually has a strong social character which should be emphasized by maintaining eye contact with ptrs and other dancers in the circle.

Do-sa-do: Pass R shldr with ptr while dancing fwd; slide slightly to the R; and move bkwd into place passing L shldr with ptr.

Meas 4/4 meter

Pattern

- 1-4 INTRODUCTION No action.
- 1 Three steps twd ctr starting with outside ft (M's L, W's R) (cts 1-3); stamp the free ft without wt while releasing hand and turning half to face out (M turn R, W turn L) taking new inside hand in W-pos (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2, release hands and end facing ptr (M face LOD, W face RLOD). M replace final stamp L with accented step L taking wt.
- 5-6 Do-sa-do with ptr in eight steps starting R.
- 7 Taking R hand with ptr in W-pos, slightly/softly bounced double-step R-L-R (QQS) twd each other (cts 1-2); slightly/softly bounced double-step L-R-L (QQS) away from each other (cts 3-4).

Vesyolaya kadril — continued

- 8 Pass each other twd next ptr taking four steps starting R, where the M dances on the inside of the circle and the W on the outside making a full turn L under the M's R arm (like a "California twirl").

Repeat the dance from the beg with new ptr.

Presented by Radboud Koop