

Spiski

(Poland)

Spiski is a couple dance from the mountain region of Spisz (speesh) in southern Poland. The dance has four figures, sixteen measures each, accompanied by two melodies.

Pronunciation: SPEES-kee

Cassette: Dance Poland 1997

2/4 meter

Formation: Couples around the circle in sets of 2 facing each other. W to R of ptr, inside hands joined down. M's L hand down, W holds the skirt.

Meas

Pattern

I. MEETING OF THE COUPLES

- A 1-3 Beginning with an outside ft (ML, WR) take 6 walking steps (2 per meas) to meet other cpl half way.
- 4 Do 3 accented steps (cts 1,&,2); acknowledge.
- 5-7 Do individual 1/2 turn (twd ptr); join ML, WR hand and beginning with MR, WL ft, take another 6 steps twd another cpl.
- 8 Do 3 accented steps (cts 1,&,2) in place (M stamps, no wt, instead of last accented step).

CHORUS—COUPLE TURNS CW, CCW

- 9 This chorus repeats every 8 meas. Technically the step is the well-known "swing the partner." Ptrs in side-to-side shldr/shldr-blade pos, cpls turn CW in place: step on R (ct 1); step on ball of L ft (ct &); repeat (cts 2,&).
- 10-11 Repeat meas 9 twice.
- 12 End with 3 accented steps R,L,R (cts 1,&,2).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12 with opp ftwk, turning CCW. M stamps, no wt, instead of last accented step.

II. TOWARD AND AWAY FROM CENTER

- All steps in meas 1-8 are done with 3 steps per meas (cts 1,&,2,hold).
- B 1-3 With inside hands joined, move twd ctr beg with outside ft (ML, WR).
- 4 Do 3 accented steps in place (cts 1,&,2).
- 5-7 Do individual 1/2 turn to face outside (W to L of ptr). Move twd original pos.
- 8 End with 3 accented steps. (W stamps, no wt, instead of last accented step.)
- 9-16 Repeat Fig I, meas 9-16, Chorus.

Spiski—continued

III. THE BRIDGES (Sets of 2 couples facing each other)

- A 1-3 Cpls facing LOD "arching" and cpls facing RLOD "diving," with 6 walking steps change places, end facing new cpl.
- 4 Do 3 accented steps in place (cts 1,&,2).
- 5-7 Do individual 1/2 turn (twd ptr); join ML, WR hand and beginning with MR, WL ft, take another 6 steps twd same cpl, reversing the arching and diving.
- 8 Do 3 accented steps (cts 1,&,2) in place (M stamps, no wt, instead of last accented step).
- 9-16 Repeat Fig I, meas 9-16, Chorus.

IV. FLIPPING THE PANCAKES

- 1-3 M facing ptr in LOD, both hands joined (R in L), beg with ML, WR ft, use the same step as Fig II. In meas 1, raise joined inside hands (ML, WR) and do 1/4 turn twd ctr (ML, WR); in meas 2 continue the turn until finished in back-to-back pos; in meas 3 do another 1/2 turn.
- 4 End with 2 accented steps facing ptr (cts 1,2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 twd orig pos with opp ftwk and body turn.
- 9-16 Repeat Fig I, meas 9-16, Chorus.

Repeat the whole dance from the beginning.

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