

Ruha

(Finland)

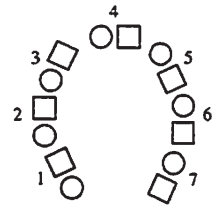
Pronunciation:

CD: Finnish Dances 1999

2/4 meter

Formation: An uneven number of cpls (e.g., 7) in a curved line (like a horseshoe), W to R of M, all facing ctr.

Steps: Uhtua step: A running step always begun with the LOD ft. Take a full step on LOD ft (ct 1); take a shorter step on other ft. The step is low, not leaping. When changing direction, the last step is only half finished so that the new LOD ft is ready to start a new step.



Uhtua karkelo (2 meas): Two opp dancers change places with 4 Uhtua steps. Beg L, run fwd 2 steps as if to pass L shldr (cts 1, 2); step on L to L (M with a stamp)(ct 3); step on R into opp place (ct 4).

No attempt is made to fit the first 5 figures to phrases of the music. The number of steps used depends on the speed and skill of the dancers.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION.

I. SNAIL

1-16 All join hands in the horseshoe. W1 dances into the ctr while M7 leads the line into a snail CW around W1. When the snail is complete, W1 dances straight through under joined hands and under arch of Cpl 7, turning CCW to open snail and lead into a new snail around M7. M7 opens snail in similar way CW to original horseshoe.

II. UNDER ARCHES

1-16 Cpl 1 raises joined hands and M7 leads line under arch and CW around the outside back to horseshoe. When W2 has gone under arch, Cpl 1 (the "pillars") follow under their own arch simultaneously.

M7 leads line under arch made by Cpl 2 returning outside to place. When M 3 is going under arch, W1 leads her end of line under it simultaneously, turning out to L to return to place. Cpl 2 turn under own arch.

Repeat under arch of Cpl 3 (M5 goes under together with W1).

M7 and W1 simultaneously lead both ends under middle arch, W turning CCW and M CW to places.

W1 leads line under arch of Cpl 5 (W3 and M1 go under simultaneously).

Ruha—continued

III. MIDDLE ARCHES**Under and Back Again**

- 1-16 M7 and W1 lead lines simultaneously under middle arch, turn out to return to place, but turn back, and when the pillars have turned under own arch, lead ends back under arch and inside back to horseshoe.

Under and Feigning

M7 and W1 lead under middle arch, turn out to places, but turn around and lead back to arch, pretending to come back under it, but turn out again and return to places outside the set.

Under and Outside to Places

Repeat once again under middle arch and then outside back to places.

IV. BRIDGE

- 1-16 M7 starts building up the bridge by leading the line first under arch of cpl 1, then under arch 2, etc., and CW back to places (A simpler way is to dance straight through under the raised hands.)

V. BIG CIRCLE

- 1-16 M7 leads horseshoe into a ring. Circle once around CW to original place. Release hands and swing in place to the end of the tune except for Cpl 1 who swing to ctr (with R hand around ptr's waist and L hand grasping ptr's upper arm).

VI. MEN'S "KARKELO"

- 1-4 M1 and M2 change places with Uhtua karkelo.
 5-8 Swing contrary W (hold as in Fig 5).
 9-12 Karkelo back to place.
 13-16 Swing own ptr.
 17-96 M1 repeats the same with all the other cpls. During the last swing, Cpl 1 return to original place and one of the other cpls swings to ctr to repeat the entire karkelo. The dance continues until each cpl has completed a full karkelo.
 When the last cpl is swinging back to place, all swing in place in quickened tempo, raising L hands up into the air in an arc.

Presented by Jussi Aronen and Lennu Yläneva