

EL PALOMO  
(Mexico)

The steps are traditional and found in the jarocho region of Mexico, in the state of Veracruz. The people of the area still improvise the sequence of patterns and often the better dancers create new ftwork on the spot. The music is an improvised art as well and it is the dancer's task to follow the constantly changing harp variations. The choreographic arrangement for El Palomo was set by Emilio Pulido for the performance group of the University of Guadalajara.


Music: ORFEON LP-12-212. Side 2, Band 2. 2/4 meter

Formation: Two lines: ptrs facing.

Style: M holds torso upright, arms held loosely at side. W is very uplifted in torso. Arms either hold skirts to side at shoulder level or the fists are placed on the hips with elbows fwd. The body remains very still while all the action is in the ft.

Meas      Patterns

1-22      Introduction. One full musical theme. The M and W make a small paseo (turn about), while she fans herself. On the phrase, "De la vuelta y vamonos" both step on L, cross R over and take a full turn on both ft. W lowers to L knee with R shoulder to ptr, R arm in front of her with skirt in hand. The M stands with R shoulder to W and drops head in acknowledgment. (Or tips hat, or touches hat, or anything else to salute W.)

I. BASIC STEP    2/4    

1      R stamp in place (ct 1). Lift R heel and lower it (ct 2). Hit L heel and lift it (ct &).

2      Repeat action of meas 1, Part I, reversing ftwork.

3      Repeat action of meas 1, Part I.

4      Stamp L (ct 1). Brush R heel fwd (ct &). Stamp R (ct 2). Brush L heel fwd (ct &). Meas 4 is traveling fwd.

5-7      Repeat action of meas 1-3, Part I, reversing ftwork and making 1/2 CW turn, ending with L shoulder to ptr.

8      Repeat action of meas 4, Part I, reversing ftwork.

9-12      Repeat action of meas 1-4, Part I. Make 5/8 turn CCW on meas 9-11. On meas 12 travel to meet ptr, ending with R shoulders together. The path is a diag cross.

13-16      Repeat the action of meas 5-8, Part I. There is no turn and the dancer continues on a straight diag path to change original places with ptr.

17-20      Repeat action of meas 1-4, Part I, turning 5/8 degrees CW so R shoulder is to ptr. Meas 20 travels fwd.

## EL PALOMO (continued)

- 21 Stamp ln L (ct 1). Hold (ct 2).  
 22+ With the refrain "De la Vuelta y Vamanas" cross R ft over L and take full turn CCW, ending with R shoulder to ptr.

II. Repeat

- 1-21 Repeat action of meas 1-21, Part I.  
 22 Take the turn with the refrain as before, but W drops to L knee as in Introduction.

III. TACONEADO

- 1 Stamp R (ct 1). Brush L heel fwd (ct &). Running stamp fwd with L (ct 2). Brush R heel fwd (ct &).  
 2-21 Repeat action of meas 1, Part III. Pattern is to cross ptr and cross back in an S design.  
 22 Repeat action of meas 22, Part II.

IV. TURNS

- & Tap R toe behind L ft (ct &).  
 1 Step on R directly behind L while L leg swings front (ct 1). Hop on R while L leg swings to back (ct 2). Tap L toe behind R ft (ct &).  
 2 Repeat action of meas 1, Part IV, reversing ftwork.  
 3-20 Repeat meas 1-2, Part IV, ten times. Meas 1&5 and 11-15 are done with a CW turn, and meas 6-10 and 16-20 has CCW turn.  
 21 Repeat action of meas 1, Part IV.  
 22 Repeat action of meas 22, Part II, except the M drops to his L knee instead of the W.

V. VARIATION OF 3 HEELS

- 1 Stamp L (ct 1). Stamp R heel in place while releasing L heel from floor (ct &). Lower L heel and release R heel (ct 2). Stamp R heel in place while releasing L heel from floor (ct &).  
 2 Lower L heel and release R heel (ct 1). Stamp R heel in place and release it immediately (ct &). Stamp R (ct 3). Stamp L heel in place while releasing R heel from floor (ct &).  
 3 Lower R heel and release L heel (ct 1). Stamp L heel and release R heel from floor (ct &). Lower R heel and release L heel (ct 2). Stamp L heel in place and release it immediately (ct &).  
 4-21 Repeat action of meas 1-3, Part V, six times.  
 22 Repeat action of meas 22, Part I. M takes off hat and holds in R hand.

VI. CROSS

- 1-3 Repeat meas 1-3 of Part I, staying in place and facing ptr.  
 4 Repeat meas 4, Part II, traveling twd ptr and bending head in fwd direction. The W uses skirt as wings of a dove and closes them around ptr. M raises hat over her head.

## EL PALOMO (continued)

- 5-7 Repeat action of meas 5-7, Part I, taking 1/4 turn CW and moving bkwd, away from ptr. M drops hat and W opens arms to side.
- 8 Repeat action of meas 8, Part I, moving twd ptr as meas 4 of Part VI.
- 9-12 Repeat action of meas 5-8, Part VI, reversing ftwork.
- 13-20 Repeat action of meas 5-12, Part VI.
- 21-22 Repeat action of meas 21-22, Part I. Ptrs end facing same direction with W to the R of M.

VII. BACK AND FORTH

- 1-3 Repeat action of meas 1-3, Part I.
- 4 Repeat action of meas 4, Part I, ptrs changing places, W crossing in front of M.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4, Part VII, reversing ftwork.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8, Part VII.
- 17-20 Repeat action of meas 1-4, Part VII. Exception: ptrs don't cross.
- 21-22 Repeat action of meas 21-22, Part VI.

X.

- 1-21 Repeat action of meas 1-21, Part I. M takes W L upper arm with his R hd and travels to make 1/2 CCW circle, all ptrs following lead cpl.
- 22 Repeat action of meas 22, Part II. Ptrs end in original pos, W on L knee, R shoulders to ptr, M hat in hand saluting ptr.

Presented by Susan Cashion