

COPEO DE MUNTANYA

Mallorca, Spain

Note: For easy reading open staples,
remove description, close staples.

This couple dance was taught to Madelynne Greene in Mallorca in 1962 by Luciano Espases Garau, leader of an ethnic dance group. His group performs the dance in lines as given here, but it may be danced as a duet by one couple. It was introduced by Madelynne Greene to California folk dancers at her Folk-Lore Camp in 1963.

MUSIC: Record: Express 229 Copeo de Muntanya

FORMATION: A line of M facing a line of W, ptrs facing each other. Stand a little to R of own ptr, not directly opp. Leave an arm's length between you and persons on each side of you. Hands on waist, fingers fwd. R heel at instep of L ft (3rd pos).

STEPS and STYLING: Copeo Step (1 step to 2 meas): Spring onto both ft, R heel at instep of L ft (cts 1,2). Hop on L, kicking R ft diagonally out to R, leg fairly straight (ct 3). Moving to L, step R behind L (meas 2, ct 1). Step L to L side (ct 2). Step R to L side, crossing in front of L (ct 3). Meas 2 is a small grapevine step. Repeat of this step alternates with L ft being kicked and grapevine movement is to R side.

NOTE: What we call a "Jota" step, is called a "Copeo" (Koh pay' oh) step by the dancers in Mallorca. In this Copeo, unlike the Jota from Aragon, the body leans slightly away from the kicking ft. This body slant gives the dance its distinctive style.

Arms for Copeo Step: Close arms into a circle overhead, fingers touching (meas 1). Look up into R forearm. Return arms to original open pos (meas 2). When kicking L ft, look up into L forearm.

Double Copeo Step (1 step to 3 meas): Meas 1: Same as in Copeo Step. Meas 2: Repeat action of Meas 1. Meas 3: Do grapevine step as in Meas 2 of Copeo Step. In other words, do 2 kicks before the grapevine. Arms will close and open twice.

Traveling Waltz (1 step to a meas): Done with long steps omitting the closing of the ft on ct 3. Accent still is on ct 1 and body sways twd accenting ft.

Scissors Kicks (3 steps to a meas): A quick step is taken as other ft is thrust fwd, toe close to floor. Sometimes, as will be noted, first kick of a series will start with a hop instead of a step. Since 1 kick is done to a ct, step moves very quickly. Can be done in place or moving fwd or bwd. Description same for both M and W.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures

4 Chords INTRODUCTION No action.

cts 2, &, 3, & Raise arms to an open circle pos over the head.

I. COPEO STEP

A 1-2 Dance 1 Copeo Step, kicking R and moving L.

3-4 Dance 1 Copeo Step, kicking L and moving R.

COPEO de MUNTANYA (continued)

- 5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 three times (8 Copeo Steps in all). Finish opp ptr and facing him.

II. SCISSORS KICKS

- B 1 Hands on waist, fingers fwd. Spring onto both ft (cts 1,2). Hopping on L, kick R fwd to begin a series of Scissors Kicks (ct 3).
- 2-3 Do 6 Scissors Kicks, beginning with L thrust fwd.
- 4 Spring onto both ft, bending knees and making a 1/4 turn L so R shoulder is twd ptr (ct 1). Hold ct 2. Hop on L, bringing R ft around behind with R knee bent and making a complete turn to R to again face ptr (ct 3).
- 5-7 Do 9 Scissors kicks, thrusting L ft fwd to begin.
- 8 Spring onto both ft, bending knees and making a 1/4 turn R so L shoulder is twd ptr (ct 1). Hold ct 2. Hop on R, bringing L ft around behind with L knee bent and making a complete turn to L to again face ptr (ct 3).
- 9-11 Do 9 Scissors Kicks thrusting R ft fwd to begin.
- 12-15 Repeat action of meas 4-7 (Fig II).
- 16 Spring onto both ft, bending knees and facing ptr (ct 1). Hold cts 2,3.

III. WALTZ

- C 1-7 Beginning R ft, dance 7 Traveling Waltz Steps, traveling in a CCW circle to ptr's side of dance and continuing around CCW to own place. At this point, you will be facing R end of line of dancers. Take long steps,

covering space, and keep circle as round as possible. Arms are in open circle over the head and body sways twd accenting ft.

- 8 Spring fwd onto both ft to stop (cts 1,2). This step will take you a little beyond where the waltz was started but don't curve as if to repeat the circle. Instead, move twd the R end of the line of dancers. Hop on R, lifting L ft, and make a half turn to L (ct 3).
- 9-15 Beginning L ft, dance 7 Traveling Waltz Steps fwd, retracing the circle (moving CW). Come back to the starting place and then travel a little beyond twd the L end of the line of dancers.
- 16 Turn R to place with 3 steps, beginning R, to finish facing ptr.
- 17 Take a step on L to prepare for next step (ct 1). Hold cts 2,3.

IV. DOUBLE COPEO

- A 1-15 Dance 5 Double Copeo Steps, kicking R ft to begin.
- 16 Shift wt onto L in preparation for next step (ct 1). Hold cts 2,3.

V. COPEO AWAY AND TOWARD PARTNER

- B 1 With R shoulder twd ptr, R arm curved in front of chest and L arm high over the head, begin a Copeo Step, kicking R ft. As hop is done on L (ct 3) make 1/2 turn R.
- 2 Travel away from ptr with 3 steps (R,L,R). This takes the place of the grapevine part of the Copeo Step.
- 3-4 With back to ptr, start to dance 1 Copeo Step, kicking L ft. On ct 3 (meas 3) make 1/2 turn L and on the 3 steps travel twd ptr. L arm is

COPEO de MUNTANYA (concluded)

- 5-16 curved in front of chest and R arm is high.
Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig V) three times (8 Copeo Steps in all).
Watch lines so they are straight.

VI. WALTZ

- C 1-17 Repeat action of Fig III.

VII. COPEO, TURNING ON THE SPOT

- A 1-2 Facing ptr, with R arm curved in front and L arm high, dance 1 Copeo Step, kicking R. On the 3 steps, turn to R on the spot instead of doing a grapevine.
- 3-4 Reversing arm pos, dance 1 Copeo Step, kicking L and turning L on the spot.
- 5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig VII) three times (8 in all).

VIII. SCISSORS KICKS FORWARD, BACKWARD, AND POSE

- B 1-3 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-3 but travel fwd, passing ptr by L shoulder, to finish almost in ptr's place.
- 4 Spring onto both ft, bending knees (ct 1). Hold ct 2. With small hop on R, thrust L ft fwd (ct 3).
- 5-6 Beginning with R thrust fwd, dance 6 Scissors Kicks backing up. Pass ptr by L shoulder but do not go so far as original place.
- 7 Thrusting R fwd, move twd ptr with 3 Scissors Kicks.
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