

Presented by Morry Gelman

FEISTRITZER LANDLER

Austria

The Feistritzer Landler is a fine example of the 3/4 rhythm dance form that spread throughout the greater Danube valley during a 200-300 year period, from the eastern provinces of Austria bordering on Hungary and Slovenia, to the regions in the west of Salzburg, Tirol and upper and lower Bavaria. In this dance one sees the simple couple dance forms of drehing (girl turning), radln (wheel), muhlen (mill), joch (yoke), herzerl (heart), walgen (dishrag), done at a moderate tempo in a dignified manner, but always with the "dancer dedicating himself completely to leading his partner in a tender, gentle way."

The notes about Austrian dancing are translations from books and articles by Prof. Richard Wolfram, who has spent a lifetime of research and enjoyment of the Austrian folk dance heritage. Prof. Wolfram is 80 years old, living in Vienna and still writing, lecturing and researching.

(This dance was also presented by Walter Grothe at Stockton Folk Dance Camp, 1960.)

PRONUNCIATION: Fy-striz-er Lahnd-ler

RECORD: Festival 504 (EP) Side 2, Band 1

FORMATION: Cpls anywhere on floor facing LOD with W on M's R and inside hands joined and down.

STEPS: Landler style waltz: A Landler waltz is a more uniform step on each of the 3 cts, 1,2,3 with a slight accent on ct 1. This is also more distinctive when the couples are doing a 3/4 turn; the Landler turn is almost a uniform rotation with more or less equal steps. When talking to Austrians about it they immediately start to explain in terms of the way the music is played, the tempo is always referred to.

STYLE: Flat footed ftwk throughout dance.

NOTE: Figures always start on the upbeat of the 8th meas.

During each meas you never stand still, but are either marking time in place, doing a waltz or Landler step.

Begin each figure with ML and WR.

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METER: 3/4

PATTERN

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Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 2 Chords

1-2 FIG. I: TURNING OF THE WOMAN  
Cpls swing joined inside hands slightly fwd and back while doing 2 waltz steps in LOD. M begin L, WR. M free hand hangs at side, if wearing suspenders thumb is hooked in suspenders, WR hand on waist fingers back.

- 3-8 Raising MR and WL hands, W turns CW (R) in front of M 3 times with 6 waltz steps. Cpls move in LOD and M stamps on ct 1 and 3 of each meas. M begin waltz with L, WR.

FIG. II: YOKE (Behind the neck)

From this point on the cpls do a slightly quicker Landler step (uniform stepping).

- 1-2 As W come around to face ptr, cpls join both hands. W continue turning CW (R) as M lowers R hand (WL), W turns under raised hands (ML-WR) and M turns 1/4 CCW (L) to end with R hips adjacent and ML-WR hands behind M neck and MR and WL hands behind W back and low.
- 3-7 Cpls rotate CW with 5 Landler steps.
- 8 M raises L (WR) hand and turns W CCW (L) to unwind her.
- 9 Reverse Yoke: M rewinds W with opp hand work so that they end with L hips adjacent, MR-WL hands behind M neck and ML-WR hands behind W back.
- 10-15 Cpls rotate CCW with 6 Landler steps.
- 16 M raises R (RL) hand and turns W CW (R) and unwinds her.

FIG. III: HERZERL (Heart)

- 1-2 M raises R (WL) hand and turns W 1/2 CW to end on M R side with both facing same direction. MR-WL hands are extended fwd at chest ht.
- 3-7 Cpls rotate CCW (L) with 5 Landler steps.
- 8 Reverse Herzerl: M moves W to his L side as both turn <sup>1/2</sup>individually to their own R, ML-WR hands are now on W L hip, MR-WL hands are extended fwd at chest ht.
- 9-15 Cpls rotate CW (R) with 7 Landler steps.
- 16 MR-WL hands are raised and W makes 1/2 turn CCW (L) to unwind. Cpls end with M back to ctr and W facing M.

FIG. IV: WALGEN (Dishrag)

- 1-4 M and W each do 2 walgen (dishrags), turning alternately in LOD, with joined hands raised and kept over head. W starts turn CCW (L) on 1st meas, then M turns CW (R) on 2nd meas; repeat turns again.
- NOTE: These are reverse turns.
- 5-8 Pursuit: With M facing LOD and W facing M, M puts joined hands on W hips and pushes her in LOD (bkwd) with 4 Landler steps. During the last 2 meas M stamp-steps fwd 4 times on cts 1 and 3, 1 and 3.

FIG. V: CCW WALTZ

- 1-8 Cpls in Viennese pos do 8 waltzes turning CCW (L) while moving in LOD.  
Viennese pos: ML-WR hands joined on M L hip, MR-WL hands joined in small of W back. (Pull bk from ptr in order to complete turns.)

FIG. VI: REACH-OVER (W back cross hold)

- 1 Turning L hip to L hip and releasing ML-WR hands, ML hand then reaches over WL arm (MR and WL hands joined and down), ML-WR hands are joined at W lower back.
- 2 Cpls rotate CCW in place with 7 Landler steps.

FIG. VII: BOTH BACK-CROSS HOLD

- 1-2 M bends over and turns 1/4 CCW (L) and slips under ML arm. Lower ML and WR hands and both turn 1/2 (W CCW (L), M CW (R)) under MR-WL until back to back. Raising MR-WL and lowering ML-WR, both move slightly to own L until R hip to R hip, with ML-WR hand in small of M back.
- 3-8 Cpls rotate CW in place with 6 Landler steps. Continue through 4 meas of Cadence.
- 1-2 CADENCE: M stamp L,R,R,L(cts 1-4); hold (ct 5); stamp R-L (cts 6-7); hold (ct 8). W keep time in place.

FIG. VIII: W LEAD AROUND

- 1-4 M bands over and turns 1/4 CW (R) and slips under WR arm. M raise and turn W 3/4 CCW (L) under raised hands (ML-WR) to face ptr. Release hands and rejoin L to L under ML arm pit as W circles CCW around M to end slightly behind and to R of M then reaches fwd and they join R hands.
- 5-8 In this pos, cpls rotate CCW (W fwd, M pivoting) in place with 4 Landler steps.
- 9 Reversing pos, W moves behind M to his L side so that R hands are now under R arm pit and L hands are extended fwd.
- 10-16 Cpls rotate CW, (W fwd, M pivoting) in place with 7 Landler steps. Continue through 4 meas of Cadence.

FIG. IX: BOTH TURN INDIVIDUALLY

- 1-2 Releasing L hands, M backs out under raised R hands (2 cts), simultaneously the W starts turning CCW under raised R hands while moving LOD.
- 3-4 W moving bkwd in LOD, M turns CW (R) under joined R hands (2 meas, 6 ct turn).
- 5-6 W repeat CCW turn under R hands, M moving fwd in LOD.
- 7-8 M repeat CW turn under R hands, W moving bkwd in LOD.

FIG. X: ARMS SWING & HANDS ON HIPS WALTZ

1-4 With R hands joined and held low, cpls move with Landler steps (W moves bkwd, M fwd) while slowly swinging joined hands in and out (one swing per meas).

5-8 Repeat Fig. IV, meas 5-8 (Pursuit)

1-2 CADENCE: M stamp L,R,R,L (cts 1-4) hold (ct 5); stamp R-L (cts 6-7); hold (ct 8). W keep time in place. M have back to ctr and take W in shldr-shldr blade pos.

FINAL WALTZ:

1-8 The dance closes with a landler in shldr-shldr blade pos, cpls turn CW or CCW.

Finish in Herzerl, with W on M's L side.