

DR GZATSLIG

(Swiss dialect meaning something like "precisely")

If one could say there is a "national" dance in Switzerland, this could be it, for it appears at all gatherings of folk dancers in every Canton.

RECORD: Folk Dancer MH 1114. The "DR" is not pronounced "doctor" but is just pronounced as "writ". . . "drrr". (title on record is misspelled)

CHORUS: Ballroom position with man's back to center of ring, joined hands pointing to couple up ahead.
Four side steps to man's left, lady's right, Swing joined hands sharply in front of own chest and take two side steps to man's right, lady's left.
Swing joined hands sharply out to side again and take two side steps to man's left, lady's right.
Swing joined hands back again in front of chest and take four side steps to man's right and to lady's left.
Swing joined hands out and take two side steps to man's left, lady's right.
Swing joined hands in and take two side steps to man's right and lady's left. Ladies always close feet neatly together under their petticoats.

Repeat the whole chorus from beginning. NOTE that the chorus is done twice only at the very beginning of the dance. Since the record has enough music to do the dance more than once, one may get confused when it comes time to repeat the dance. The chorus music is special music and you will learn to identify it so that you will automatically do the chorus only when you hear the specific tune. It's fun to sing along with the music.

FIGURE I: Retain ballroom position but face forward in lane of direction and stand a little more side by side. Place outside heel, then toe forward and take a slow two-step (step-together-stop) forward. Swing joined hands in other direction, face the other way and again do a heel and toe and step-together-step in opposite direction. Now in ballroom position turn clockwise while moving counter-clockwise around the circle with four slow two-steps with no hop.

Repeat Figure I.

CHORUS: Now do chorus but only once through.

FIGURE II: Face partner in single circle formation - ladies in front with joined right hands. man moves forward, lady backwards, both moving first to center of circle, then away from center with a step-together-step hop. Man then takes 4 slow step-hops forward as lady turns cw by herself with 4 slow step-hops. Repeat all of this. (The hop can be merely lifting of the heel from the floor.)
Now repeat Figure II, but without touching - men folding hands across chest - ladies with free hands on hips. (fists)

Now repeat dance from beginning----remember chorus is done twice now as it is the beginning of the dance.

Occasionally at a Saturday night party you may hear a happy yell from a herdsman or from his feet a rhythmic stamping pattern called "bodele".