

"HEXENSPRUNG" (Witches leap)

Germany

Reeerd: Fidulafon 1304 a

Formation; An even number of dancers (traditionally this is done by men), each holding a twig broom.

Fig.I a Dragging their brooms,witches sneak around the dancing area with 16 steps, crouching low.

b All sweep the dancing place clean.

c All jump over the broom. Each in his own individual way.

Fig.II A All sneak around into a CW circle with 16 steps. End facing another dancer.

b Stradeling their brooms, they dance a grand right and left, with gallop steps.

c Hook R elbows, holding broom in left hand, turn CW

Fig.III a All sneak around own broom.

b With 4 steps all skip to center and back. Repeat four steps to center and toss broom in a heap With four more steps, skip back.

c All slide to the left around the pile of brooms and off stage, while clapping hands.

Many of the traditional Mardi Gras characters of the Allemanic towns are witches. They wear hand carved wooden masks, straw shoes, wildly patterned stockings, a kerchief and brightly patched skirts.

