

KETTENGALOPP
(Swiss Chain Dance)

RECORD: MH 1112 - Folk Dancer

FORMATION: Couples facing each other around the ring, the man standing a little behind his partner who is on his right. Right hands are joined over the lady's right shoulder, left hands joined in front of the man.

ACTION:

Meas. 1 "Heel and Toe Step". Both start with the left foot, touching the heel forward, then bring the left toe up and touch it in front of the right foot.

Meas. 2 A two-step to the left (step left, close right, step left, pause) the man dancing in place as the lady crosses over to his left side.

Meas. 3-4 Repeat to the right, starting with the right heel and toe, the lady changing back to the right side on the two-step. Couples half face each other as the ladies change across.

Meas. 5-6 "Gallop Step". Slide four slides diagonally forward to the left, passing the other couple, the lady again shifting over to the man's left side.

Meas. 7-8 Four slides diagonally forward to the right, the lady shifting back to the right side. Couples are standing with their backs to the original couple and are ready to begin the dance with the new couple they are facing.

Meas. 9-16 Continue with the same step, weaving in and out amongst the couples
& 17-24 as in a grand "chain" .

Swiss Dance

LA FAIRA DA STRADA - From the Engadine
(The Fair in Strada - Romansche)

AM MARKT VON STRADA

RECORD: Folk Dancer MH 1112

In this recording we made an attempt to simulate the old type of folk dance music in this canton of Switzerland, where in the old days nothing but string instruments were used for dancing.

FORMATION: This is a lovely dance using one step throughout - the "ubertratler" step.

Directions are for men. Women do counterpart on opposite feet. Step fwd L (count 1), step R next to L (count and), step fwd L (count 2), step fwd R with a slight knee bend (count 3) - with no stamp. Since each step takes 3 counts, but the music is in 2/4 time, this seems a little tricky.

ACTION: I. "GOING TO THE FAIR" Partners face fwd holding inside hands shoulder high. 4 complete steps fwd. On 4th, the lady turns cw under joined inside hands. Man brings feet together with a stamp. Face opposite direction without changing hands. Repeat steps and on 4th, lady turns, clockwise.

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