

Lašský mazur

(Silesia, Czech Republic)

A couple dance from the Lašsko region in northeastern Moravia (Silesia). It features alternating waltz and polka rhythms. It was taught by the Rejšeks at the Dvorana Summer Workshop in Jindřichův Hradec, Czech Republic, in August 1997, and elsewhere. Frantešek Bonuš also taught it at the 1986 Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

Pronunciation: LAHSH-kee MAH-zoor

Cassettes: *Dances from the Czech Republic, Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2001, Side A/1; Dvorana Summer Folk Dance Week 1997, A/7 ("Mazura").*

Records: Festival Records FB-114007, Side B/2; Tanz EP 56430, Side A/1. 2/4, 3/4 meter

Formation: Cpls facing LOD, in Varsouvienne hold, but L hands held down.

Steps and Styling: Mazur walking steps are like a Polish Polonaise step, i.e., first step is long with slight dip, followed by 2 regular walking steps.

Pas de Basque polka (eastern style) is a high stepping or leaping polka.

Meas

Pattern

2 meas

INTRODUCTION.

3/4

I. MAZUR WALKS

1-2 Dance 2 Mazur walking sequences in LOD, both starting with L (6 steps in all).

3 M step in place while leading W over to L side in 3 steps (LRL).

4-6 Repeat meas 1-3, but with opp ftwk.

7 Moving to L and slightly forward diagonally, step on L to side (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct &), step on L (ct 2); touch side of R ft across in front of L with slight dip on L (ct 3). Tip arms in direction of movement.

8 Repeat meas 7 with opp ftwk and direction.

9 W turn under raised R hand in front of M and around his L side to end up in back with 3 steps (LRL). M take 3 steps in place.

10-11 Repeat meas 7-8 with opp ftwk in this position.

12 W continue to move R behind M turning once under M's raised L arm and ending up on his R side in starting Varsouvienne pos. W take 3 steps (LRL); M step in place, or move slightly to L to ease W's turn.

2/4

II. PAS DE BASQUE

1-2 Both dance Pas de Basque step to L (LRL, hold) making eye contact; arms tip to L. Repeat to R (RLR, hold).

3-4 W turn under raised M's R arm to L side of M and slightly behind with 4 walking steps (LRLR); M step in place, and L arm is now raised.

5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.

7-8 W turn under M's raised L arm to return behind the M to his R side. M does 4 steps in place. Make eye contact with ptr.

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

Lašský Mazur—continued

3/4 III. MAZUR WALKS

1-12 Repeat Fig I.

2/4 IV. CUPEK (TSOO-pehk)

1-2 Moving to the L, M slightly behind W, step on L (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct &), step on L (ct 2). Stamp R (ct 1); stamp L without taking wt (ct 2).

3-4 Touch L heel 2 times to L side (cts 1,2); stamp 3 times (LRL) (cts 1,&,2).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, but moving to R and with opp ftwk.

9-14 Repeat meas 1-6.

15-16 W turn L (CCW) under raised hands (M's R and W's R) with 4 steps to end facing ptr with R hands joined (M is facing LOD). M do 4 steps in place.

3/4 V. HOLUBEC (HOH-loo-behts)

1 Moving twd ctr (to M's L), M's free hand held up or behind back, W's on hip, M step on L to L (ct 1), step on R next to L (ct 2), lift L leg out and click heels together sharply (ct 3).

2 With toes together, lift onto toes and move heels apart (ct 1); click heels together sharply (ct 2); hold (ct 3).

3 Stamp R (ct 1); L (ct 2); hold (ct 3). W do meas 1-3 with opp ftwk.

4-6 Repeat meas 1-3 with opp ftwk and direction.

7-9 Hook R elbows and turn once around, both starting with L ft. Step L with accent, step R and hop twice (L,R,R); repeat. Stamp 3 times in place (LRL), while backing away from each other a little and M can clap.

10-12 Repeat meas 7-9, but hooking L elbows and starting with R ft.

2/4 VI. POLKA AND WOMAN TURNS

1-8 With ptrs in closed shldr-shldr blade hold (or M's L hand can be hooked over W's R arm), dance 8 turning leaping polka sequences (CW), moving in LOD.

9-16 With 8 step-hops, M dances fwd in LOD and W turns to her R (CW) under M's raised L arm. M lift free ft to knee level on each hop.

17-24 Repeat meas 1-8, ending with ptrs facing; M facing LOD.

VII. ŠLAPAK (SHLAH-pahk)

1-2 Hook R ft behind L (ct 1); rock fwd on L (ct &); rock back on R (ct 2). Repeat with opp ftwk.

3-4 Move backward with 4 reeling steps (RLRL).

5-6 Jump with emphasis to L (about 45°) with stride (ct 1); sharply close feet together (ct 2). Repeat to R.

7-8 Facing ptr, jump into stride (ct 1); leap up clicking heels together (ct &); repeat, but land on R ft (cts 2). Stamp L,R. (meas 8, cts 1,2).

Presented by Radek Rejšek and Eva Rejšková

Notes by Bill and Louise Lidicker