

EL RASCAPETATE
(Chiapas, Mexico)

Source: Learned by Henry "Buzz" Glass during the year 1954-55 from Señor Escoto and Señor Gómez.

Music: ASP 103-A

Formation: Dancers arranged in longways formation, partners facing, about four feet apart. W has a rebozo worn across back and wrapped around each arm. Hands on skirt. M has hands clasped in bk.

Steps: Basic Zapateado and stamps - Step slightly fwd on R, step in place on L, step on R beside L. Repeat this pattern by stepping slightly fwd on L, stepping in place R and bringing L beside R. Repeat the pattern beginning R, L, R, L making 6 patterns in all. Make a half turn L at the same time taking 4 stamps R, L, R, L. Repeat the six basic zapateados and four stamps making a half turn R. Repeat zapateados and stamps for four complete repetitions.
Note: The feet are kept very close to the floor as the action is quite rapid.

1. Basic Zapateado and Stamps

As music begins, dancers make a quarter turn to own R to face up or down the set. Both beginning on the R ft, execute the basic zapateado (6) and stamps (4), with half turns alternately L, R, L, R. On the last four stamps partners face each other across the set.

2. Zapateado Variation and Buzz Turn

Stamp on R in place at the same time striking L heel beside R, tap L toe beside R momentarily taking weight, transfer weight back to R and at the same time strike L heel on floor beside R. Repeat the same pattern starting L, as stamp in place on L at the same time striking R heel beside L, quickly followed by tapping R toe beside L ft momentarily taking weight, step again on L in place and at the same time strike R heel on floor beside L.

Turning to the R one turn, take four buzz steps to face partner.

Repeat all of the above sequence beginning on alternate feet and doing the buzz turn alternately L, R, L (Four complete sequences in all).

3. Basic Zapateado and Stamps

Partners again face up or down the set to repeat all of step 1 as described above.

4. Rascapetate Step (Rasping Step)

Stamp on R ft in place at same time brushing L ft slightly fwd and bk (keeping brushing ft close to floor), momentarily take weight on L, transfer weight to R and at the same time brush L ft slightly fwd. To repeat the pattern, stamp on L ft in place at the same time brushing R ft slightly fwd and bk (feet close to floor) momentarily take weight on R, transfer weight to L and at same time brush R ft slightly fwd. Repeat alternately 16 times in all doing step in place facing partner.

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Rascalpetate

5. Basic Zapateado and Stamps
Dancers again repeat action of Step 1.
6. Paseo - Waltz
Beginning facing each other, step slightly fwd on L making a quarter turn L and at the same time extend R toe fwd on floor (feet are astride and partners face away). Step on R and pivoting on R a half turn, bring L toe extended fwd (feet astride) so dancers are face to face. With six walking steps, make almost two full turns to face each other in opposite place. Repeat the same pattern back to original pos and then once more change places. On the 4th repetition a variation occurs as follows: Step on L extending R toe fwd (bk to bk), step on R making a half turn R and extending L toe fwd (face to face). As dancers meet in the center, M takes rebozo from W's R arm as she retains hold of it with her LH. She makes a L turn backing up with walking steps to original place while M backs up with walking steps to his place. Dancers end holding the rebozo with two hands allowing the rebozo to dip slightly.
7. Balance and Turn
With waltz balances, M balances sdwd L and R, W R and L. Dancers then take 3 step dishrag turns to M's L and W's R and close the free ft to the supporting ft. Repeat balance and 3-step turn in the same manner in the opposite direction. Repeat all (4 times in all).
8. Enredo (Windup)
This step is a variation of step 1 performed in the following manner: W holding one end of rebozo does 6 basic zapateados continually turning L and winding the rebozo about her waist. At the same time M holds the other end of the rebozo (keeping it taut), does 6 basic zapateados in place. Directly facing each other the dancers stamp R, L, R, L, W unwinds turning R with 6 zapateado steps, M doing 6 in place and both end again with 4 stamps R, L, R, L. Repeat winding and unwinding, W at the end keeping the rebozo.
9. Basic Zapateado and Stamps
Repeat action of Step 1.
10. Zapateado variation and Buzz turn
Repeat step 2 as described above.
11. Basic Zapateado Forward and Back
Partners are directly opposite, facing. They take all of the basic zapateado (6) in place and on the 4 stamps R, L, R, L they back away from each other. Repeat basic zapateados and advance twd each other on the four stamps. Repeat all. Accent the last stamp to pose.

THIS MATERIAL WILL APPEAR SHORTLY IN BOOK FORM AND IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION.

--presented by Henry "Buzz" Glass
Folk Dance Camp, 1957