

SALTERELLO di ROMAGNA

Folkraft 1408 A

near Bologna, Italy

The "Salterello" was danced in all parts of central Italy. The name comes from the old Roman term "Saltatio" which means jumping or dancing and also referred to special spring festivities. Generally it is a free dance without set pattern, occasionally it is a group dance like this one. E. F. G.

Formation:

Three couples in a row; man, girl, man-girl, man, girl; 1 2 3
partners facing each other, about four feet apart. For man girl man
the bow and the first figures, the 3 people in a line 1 2 3
hold hands, with arms outstretched at shoulder level man girl man
free hand on hip.

INTRODUCTION:

Bow-The two lines move forward toward each other with two steps, starting with L ft; stop, both feet together, bow deeply. Back two steps starting L ft; feet together, no bow.

Fig. 1

Music

A

Step swing-Middle couple; ends stand still.

Man of middle couple leaps on left ft. swinging R across L (meas. 1) count 1,2, then spring on R ft and swing left leg across R (meas. 2). Repeat 3 more times 16 counts all together. Sometimes man makes a fast turn in place CC on last 2 counts. Girl of middle couple does two similar steps, but less vigorously (meas. 1 & 2) then lets go hands and turns CC once in place with 4 running steps (meas. 3&4). Repeat kicks and turn.

Fig. 2

Music

B

Reel step-Middle Couple; ends stand still

Man places R ft. directly behind L (count 1). Hops on it and 16 reel steps, two to a measure. This step is done in place which is accomplished by pushing a little forward on each hop. Girl with 16 small skipping or reel steps describes 2 circles CC on floor moving lower part of body, but continuing to face partner and holding hands of the two men next to her.

Fig. 3

Music

C &

Repeat

Turn partner and corners.

Middle couple takes R forearm grip and turns C twice with 8 running steps (meas. 17 to 20) then man springs over to girl No. 1 and with L forearm grip turns her twice, while girl does the same with man #3 (meas. 21-24). Repeat turning partner, then man turns girl #3 and #1 and girl turns other two men. In brief, partners turn each other and each person of own line once.

Fig. 4

Music

D & E

All couple dance-Middle step hop--ends Fig. 1&2.

Middle couple takes social dance position and does 30 step hops or heavy pivot steps in the centre, C, swaying from side to side while end couple do exactly as middle couples did in fig. 1 & 2 but holding-hand with partner. All move to R. Music retards on last measure of Fig 4 permitting dancers to rotate to next place to the R, which is done by each person turning singly CC and moving to next place. This brings everyone to a new position and a new partner. man girl man
A new couple is in the middle and group is ready to repeat dance. Do dance 3 times so partners will be back man girl man together.

End

Coda

Music

All couples take social dance pos. and do 30 step-hops or pivot steps, turning constantly. End bowing to partner.