

Świniok

Pronunciation: shvee-nyohk

Record: DR-7167 available from Ada Dziewanowska.

This is a couple dance in 2/4 time from the mountainous region of Beskidy in the southern part of Upper Silesia, in Poland. The name of the dance derives from a song. The word "świniok" (Silesian dialect for "świniarz") means a swineherd. The same dance appears in other parts of the Beskidy region under different names.

Starting position: Couples in a circle, in open ballroom position, both Man and Woman facing LOD; the outside arms hang down, or Man may place his hand on his lower back, palm facing away from the body.



Measures:

1-8 Introduction.

PART I: Polka with 2 hops.

- 1 Starting with their outside ft couple does a flat polka step in LOD; during ct 1& they both lean forward, on ct 2 they straighten.
- 2 Both hop twice on their outside ft and swing their inside legs forward.
- 4 Couple does half a turn toward each other (Man CW, Woman CCW) and repeat pattern of Meas. 1-2 with opposite footwork and direction.

PART II: Pivot.

Man puts his R arm around Woman's waist and his L hand on her shoulder blade; Woman has her R hand on Man's shoulder blade and her L hand on Man's upper arm.

- 5-8 Man starting with his Lft backward and Woman with her Rft forward the couple pivots CCW in LOD; with 8 steps they make 4 full revolutions (in Silesian dialect the pivot step is called the "szłapok" [shwah-pohk] from the verb szłapać - to shamble).
- 9-16 Repeat the whole dance from the beginning.

The dance is repeated 6 more times.



Szłapok

Dance introduced in 1974 by Ada and Jaś Dziewanowski, who learned it in Cieszyn, Poland, from a noted Silesian folklorist, Janina Marcinkowa. Do not reproduce these directions without Ada's permission: 41 Katherine Road, Watertown, Mass. 02172, tel. (617)923-9061.