

EL TRANCHETE
(Mexico) (State of Jalisco)

El Tranchete comes from the Son -- Mariachi tradition of Mexican Music and Dance. "Son - Mariachi" is by definition an indigenous music and song and dance that developed among the Mestizos (Indian-Spanish cross-breed) in the States of Jalisco, Nayarit, and Michoacan. Son dancing has a courtship motif; the man taking the aggressive role and circling the woman, while she turns her back or ducks away. Miss Cashion learned the dance from Emilio Pulido of the University of Guadalajara.

Costume: W wears ankle-length, very full skirt and high-necked blouse, always a rebozo (shawl), a full-length petticoat, bloomers, and high bottom shoes. Her hair is always in braids. M wears charro or horse-man outfit, a large sombrero, boots, and spurs.

Formation: Ptrs facing each other, about 4 ft apart, at random about the room. For teaching purposes may be danced in lines, ptrs facing, M L shoulder twd music. Ptrs dance with each other, not to audience, using same ftwork throughout.

Music: Record: RCA Victor: MKL-1224, Side 2, band 2.
RCA Victor 76--1147 (45 rpm)

Syiling: W holds Rebozo and skirt at sides, using it freely. M clasps hands behind back and leans torso fwd from the hips. There is much knee flexion.

Meas Pattern

A 1-8 Introduction. Stand in place, wt on L ft which is placed slightly behind R.

PART I. Rhythmic Structure: 6/8 meter



A 1 Hop on L (ct 1). Step fwd onto R (ct 2). Hold (ct 3). Light leap back onto L (ct 4). Step fwd onto R (ct 5). Hold (ct 6). *R shldr leading.*
2 Light leap back onto L (ct 1). Tap R toe behind L (ct 2). Repeat for cts 3, 4. Step on L (ct 5). Hold (ct 6). *L shldr leading.*
3-8 Repeat action of meas 1-2, three times, *alternating ft.*

PART II. 6/8 meter

B 1 Hop on L (ct 1). Brush R heel fwd diagonally across L. Knee relaxed, leg rotated in (ct 2). Hold (ct 3). Hop on L (ct 4). Brush R diagonally across L, leg rotated out (ct 5). Hold (ct 6).
2 Repeat action of meas 2, Part I, but hop on L (ct 1).
3-4 Leap onto R (ct 1) and repeat rest of action of meas 1-2, Part II, with reverse ftwork.
5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-8, Part II.

EL TRANCHETE (continued)

PART III -- Variation on Part II

- B 9-16 Repeat action of Part II, but as the R toe is tapped make one full turn CW. As the L toe is tapped make one full turn CCW.

INTERLUDEPART IV - 2/4 meter

- 10 cts a) Leap onto L (ct 1). Brush R heel fwd with a small circular motion as though rolling your spurs on the floor (ct &). Repeat action of cts 1, & seven more times (8 in all), hopping on L each time. During these 8 steps change places with ptr, passing R shoulders, turning to face ptr at end.
- b) Jump with both ft together (ct 9). Leaving toes in place, open heels outward (ct &). Click heels together (ct 10). Open heels outward (ct &).

PART V - 2/4 meter

- 11 cts a) Step L (ct 1). Stamp R heel (ct &). Step R (ct 2). Stamp L heel (ct &). Repeat action of cts 1, & 2, & three more times (4 in all). Repeat cts 1, & once more (9 cts in all).
- b) Jump with both ft together (ct 10). Leaving toes in place, open heels outward (ct &). Click heels together (ct 11). Open heels outward (ct &). Music accelerates during Part V.

PART VI -- 6/8 meter

During meas 1-8, W turn CW, M dance in place.

- D 1 Step flat on L (accenting) (ct 1). Step R heel only (ct 2). Step back onto L, (accenting) (ct 3). Step R heel only (ct 4). Step back onto L, (accenting) (ct 5). Step R heel only, no wt (ct 6).
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1, Part VI, beginning R.
- 3-6 Repeat action of meas 1-2, twice (3 times in all).
- 7 Stamp L, R, L in place, stamping on cts, 1, 3, 5.
- 8 Pause.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8, Part VI, W making 1 CCW turn.
- A 1-16 Repeat action of Part I, twice, changing places with ptr on meas 1-8, passing R shoulders. Change places again on meas 9-16, passing R shoulders.
- B C D Repeat action of Parts II, III, IV, V, and VI exactly.

FINALE

- 1-5 Moving twd ptr, repeat action of Part I, meas 1-5.
- 6 Stamp R.
- 4 notes Join R hands, M leads ptr into a 1-1/2 CCW turn under the joined hands to finish W at M R side, joined hands at W waist. M leans fwd, his sombrero shielding their faces. W L hand holds skirt.

Presented by Susan Cashion