

Magic Mamaliga

(Romania)

“The Magic Polenta”—Romanian line dance. Source: Daniel Sandu, Albuquerque, Spring workshop 2006.

Pronunciation:

Music: Sandu CD 4/4 meter

Formation: Line, hands joined and slightly forward, arms in W-pos for parts 1, 2, and 4. Hands joined with straight arms extended horizontally forward for part 3.

Style: brisk

Meas

Pattern

8 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

PART I

- 1 Facing between ctr and LOD, move diag fwd with two steps (R-L) bringing arms down and up (cts 1,2); moving sideways diag out from ctr and slightly in LOD: “step together, step” (R-L-R=QQS), hands and arms make “little circles” (cts 3,&,4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

PART II

- 1 Facing L of ctr step R sideways twd ctr (ct 1); moving sideways away from ctr and slightly in RLOD: “step together step” (L-R-L=QQS) (cts 2,&,3); repeat ct 1 (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1, cts 2-3 (cts 1,&,2); repeat Part I, meas 1, cts 1-2 (cts 3,4).
- 3 Repeat meas 1, cts 2-4 and meas 2, ct 1 with opp ftwk and direction (RL-R-L-RL= QQSSQQ) (cts 1,&,2,3,4,&).
- 4 Repeat meas 1, cts 3-4 with opp ftwk and direction (cts 1-2); facing ctr. step R-L as arms move all the way down and up (cts 3,4).
- Note: Arms in Part II sway constantly, augmenting movement of upper body.

PART III

- 1 Facing and moving twd ctr (hands joined) with arms extended straight fwd at shldr level, step R-L-R-touch. Arms (straight) bounce, slightly exaggerated, up on the beat and down on the off beat, or “up down” on each beat (cts 1&,2&,3&,4&).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

PART IV

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R in place (ct 1); stamp L heel slightly fwd of R with wt (ct 2), hands and arms (back in W-pos) make small circles, moving fwd and up on ct 1, and down and back on ct 2, etc.; repeat cts 1 and 2 (cts 3,4).

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- 2 Repeat ftwk of meas 1. Arms come all way down on cts 1 and 2, move back up on cts 3 and 4 (cts 1,2,3,4).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

Sequence: Dance parts in order except Part IV gets repeated the second time through the dance. Dance goes through (minus introduction) total of three times.

Presented by Gary Diggs