

MANFRINA

Island of Korčula, Croatia



The island of Korčula has its beginning in a time of Greek colonization, when colonists from Corfu (*Gr. Korkyra*) inhabited this island and called it *Korkyra Melaina (the Black Corfu)*. A great part of its history Korčula spent under Venetian government, so the Mediterranean influences are obvious. The dances of Korčula, and of many other Croatian islands, were brought to Croatia during the period of French marshal Marmont. They were danced on church holidays on squares in front of the church where girls used to sing in choirs. The island dances (*bâli*) / *Manfrina (or Mafrina)*, *Kvatro paši*, *Vrtajica*, *Trepavica* *Pritilica* and other dances/ are accompanied by bag pipes (“*mijeh*”), lyra (“*lijerica*”), accordion (“*dijatonska harmonika*”) or tamburitza orchestras (“*tamburaški sastavi*”). Željko was researching on the island from 1977 until present days.

PRONUNCIATION:

Mun-FREE-nah

MUSIC: 4/4 meter

CD: Baština Hrvatskog Sela, *Band 16*
Croatian Couple Dances, *Band 4*
Resonance of Croatia, *Band 12*

FORMATION: Circle:

Fig I: Circle of cpls, facing ptr, M’s back to ctr.

HOLD:

Fig I:

Elbow lock hold side-by-side & Promenade position
*Women’s free hand holds the skirt;
*Man’s left hand is on the small of the back; thumb of the R hand is tucked in the top of the belt

Chorus:

*Women hold the skirt with both hands;
*Man – same as in Part 1

Fig II:

Hold inside hands, forearms together, at waist height

STEPS:

Fig I:

Walking or skipping steps

Chorus

Polka Step: Step R fwd (ct 1), step L in place (ct &), step R

& Fig II:

fwd (ct 2). Step is repeated with alternating ftwk.

STYLE:

Elegant and majestic

Meas 4/4 meter

PATTERN

5 meas

INTRODUCTION

(Courtesy bow to partner)

I. Walking and Turning

1-2

Facing LOD (CCW), starting R, walk fwd 8 steps (cts 1-8). (2nd time through music, use first 4 steps to turn CCW to face LOD.)



- 3-4 As a couple, side by side, starting R, turn CW in place with 6 walking steps, M moving forward, W moving backward (cts 1-6). Facing LOD, step back R (ct 7), step fwd L (ct 8).
- 5-6 Repeat meas 1-2
- 7 Starting R, in 4 steps W moves fwd and around M to end with back to ctr; M takes small steps in place, turning to face ctr and ptr, releasing hands (cts 1-4). During this meas, slip escort hold to holding inside hands.
- 8 Releasing hands, step R back (ct 1), step L in place (ct 2), hold (cts 3, 4).

2/4 meter **Chorus**

- 1-2 Turning shoulders to face ptr, dance 1 Polka Step fwd (cts 1, &, 2); turning shoulders to face away from ptr, dance 1 Polka Step fwd (ct 3, &, 4). End with M facing ctr and W facing out.
- 3-5 Using 2 Polka Steps, turn 1 1/2 times CCW in place to end facing ptr (cts 1-4); small jump onto both feet (cts 5, 6).
- 6-10 Repeat meas 1-5. End facing ptr with M facing ctr and W facing out.

II. Polkas and Turning

- 1-2 Face RLOD (CW), join inside hands, dance four Polka Steps fwd (cts 1-8).
- 3-4 With 6 steps, W walks around M, CCW, while M turns around in place (cts 1-6). Step R back (ct 7), step L in place (ct 8).
- 5-6 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-2.
- 7-8 With 6 steps, W walks around M, CCW (in a slightly larger circle than in meas 1-2); while M turns around in place (cts 1-6); release hands, small jump onto both feet facing ptr (cts 7, 8).

2/4 meter **Ending**

- 1-2 Turning R shoulder away from ptr, dance 1 Polka Step bkwd, away from ptr (cts 1, & 2); turning L shoulder away from ptr, dance 1 Polka Step bkwd, away from ptr (cts 3, & 4).
- 3-5 Using 2 Polka Steps, turn twice CW in place to end facing ptr (cts 1-4); small jump onto both feet (cts 5, 6)
- 6-7 Repeat Ending, meas 1-2 moving fwd, toward ptr.
- 8-10 Repeat Ending, meas 3-5, turning CCW.

Sequence: Part I, Chorus; Part II, Chorus; Part I, Chorus; Part II, Chorus, Ending.

Dance notes by Željko Jergan and Cricket Raybern; September 2011

Presented by Željko Jergan at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 2013

Manfrina

Korčula

The first system of music consists of four staves. The top staff is the melody in treble clef, starting with a G chord. The second staff is the accompaniment in treble clef, with a D chord. The third staff is the accompaniment in treble clef, marked with an '8'. The bottom staff is the bass line in bass clef.

The second system of music consists of four staves. The top staff is the melody in treble clef, with a D chord. The second staff is the accompaniment in treble clef, with chords G, D, G, D, G, D, G. The third staff is the accompaniment in treble clef, marked with an '8'. The bottom staff is the bass line in bass clef.

The third system of music consists of four staves. The top staff is the melody in treble clef, with a G chord. The second staff is the accompaniment in treble clef, with chords D, G, D, G. The third staff is the accompaniment in treble clef, marked with an '8'. The bottom staff is the bass line in bass clef.