

NAŠLYS

Lithuanian

PRONUNCIATION: nahsh-LEESS

TRANSLATION: The widower

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Vyts Beliajus, a Lithuanian immigrant who has been called the "Father of Folk Dancing in the United States," who introduced this dance in America.

BACKGROUND: This is a type of musical chairs. Many couples follow a lone widower, then each one takes turn to swing a woman. When the music stops, the one remaining without a partner is the next widower.

MUSIC: Folkraft (LP) LP-35, "Viltis Lithuanian Folk Dances," side B, band 9.

FORMATION: Column of cpls facing the same dir, each W on M R, with one M (the "widower") alone at the head of the column. Ptrs have inside hands joined and free hands down at sides.

METER/RHYTHM: 4/4

STEPS/STYLE: SWING: In Lithuanian Pos, ptrs facing opp dir with R sides adjacent, M R arm in front of W and R handholding her waist and L handholding W L upper arm, W R hand on M L shldr and L hand holding her skirt, walk CW while revolving in place.

Style is relaxed.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

None.

I. WALKING

1-12 The "widower" leads the column anywhere on the floor with walking steps.

II. SWINGING

1-?? The "widower" takes the first W in back of him and swings her around once or twice.

The "widower" releases the first W and, while he swings the next W in the column, the first partnered M in the column, who has followed the "widower" around the

set, swings the first W.

The "widower" and the first M release their ptrs and swing the next W as the third M in the column swings the first W.

The Swinging continues until the music stops . . . at which point the M who was rounding the head of the set and who is without a ptr becomes the next "widower."

Repeat entire dance from beg with the new "widower" heading the column.