

SARBA (A Romanian Dance)

Taught by the Hermans as learned from natives.

RECORD: Columbia 36241

The first part of the record listed is a slow doina during which the dancers can sway from side to side and sing. It is not too satisfactory a record...perhaps some day we'll run across a better one.

There are many steps in the Sarba and they are not done in any special sequence. The dancers should learn the calls so they can follow the leader who calls the steps as he likes.

FORMATION: No partners in a circle formation. Traditionally the dance is done with hands on each other's shoulders. While learning the dance, and until everyone in the circle knows the steps well, it is wiser to just hold hands.

NOTE: It is also traditional to begin the dance with a lively step-hop on left foot before preceding into the dance proper. The names of the dance steps are given phonetically. The Basic Step is usually done after each step. Dancers do each step called until the leader shouts "Go Ahead" or "shee-na-yee-teh."

BASIC STEP:

Step to right on right foot. Step on left behind right. Step-hop on right foot swinging left foot over right. Step-hop on left foot swinging right foot over left. Continue in this manner moving to right.

BATUTA:

Slide to right 3 times then step-hop on right foot swinging left foot over right. Step-hop on left foot swinging right foot. Do this step over until the leader calls next move.

SERITA:

Step to right on right foot. Step on left behind right. Do a "pas de basque" to the right and to the left. Continue until the next call.

PEE-LOC:

Get into the step by stepping on right foot to right. Step left behind right. Step-hop on right foot...now the step begins: Cross left foot in front of right and chug back on it as you swing right foot forward. Cross right foot over left and chug back on right as you swing left foot forward. Rock in place quickly-forward on left, back on right, forward on left. Hop on left foot in preparation for a repeat of step with other foot: Cross right foot in front and chug back on it. Cross left foot in front and chug back on it. Rock in place, R,L,R. Do it once more starting with left foot. Then go into the basic step.

OFITSARSKAYA:

When you have a small circle the dancers should straighten out into a line for this figure, otherwise keep in circle formation. Do

Sarba (cont.)

one basic step to right; then to left; then to center; then back from center, like this:

Step right. Step left behind right. Step-hop on right.
Step left. Step right behind left. Step-hop on left.
Move forward 3 steps, R,L,R, hop on right.
Move backwards 3 steps, L,R,L, hop on left.

SHEENA-POY:

Begin the step by stepping on right foot to right, left foot behind right. Step-hop on right swinging left foot over right. Step-hop on left AND NOW TURN LEFT without dropping hands and swing right foot forward. *Place right foot down with knee bent slightly. Chug forward a little on the left foot as right knee is brought sharply up. Repeat step 3 times from *. On the last count turn to right and hop on right foot....swinging left foot forward and do three of the same steps in other direction step-chugging on right foot and raising left knee.

Face center and step-hop on left foot. Cross right foot over left and step-hop on it. Cross left foot over right and step-hop on it. Stamp three times on right foot. Continue immediately with basic step.

BAH-NOOL MA-ROO-CHEE-NEE:

Step to right on right foot. Step on left behind right. Hop on right foot as you place left toe (heel up) to left. Hop on right foot and place left heel down in same spot. Hop on right foot and kick left foot underneath right knee-cap (in front). Hop on right foot and kick left foot forward and to the side in air. Repeat with other feet...step to left on left foot, place right behind left. Hopping on left foot do the toe, heel, kick, kick with right foot. Do the step until the caller shouts the next figure.