

TEA PICKERS' DANCE 茶選人舞

(Taiwan - China)

Learned from a Chinese (Taiwan) dance group from Montreal. There are many arrangements of steps and figures done to this popular folk tune.

Music: Yves and France Moreau CD
Meter: 2/4
Formation: Closed circle of individual dancers (even number). Each dancer faces another dancer. Left arm is bent close to waist simulating holding a round basket. R arms is free. Wt on L.
Styling: Light and happy.

Measure 2/4

Description

1-4 **Intro music. No action.**

1. Picking tea leaves

Basic step : With L arm bent and close to L hip (pretending to hold a basket), do 5 «tea-picking steps» as follows :

1 Step fwd on R, stretching out R arm fwd as if picking a tea leaf with fingers (1), step back on L, retracting R arm (&), 2 steps in place R-L, with hand depositing leaf in basket while doing a quarter-turn CW (2, &).

2-4 Repeat 3 more tea-picking steps, continuing the CW rotation to end facing original partner.

5 Repeat meas 1 (1, &), step R next to L (2) still facing partner.

6 Shift arm pos so that basket is now on R hip and L hand does the picking (1, 2)

7-11 Repeat pattern of meas. 1-5 with opp dir, hand, and ftwrk doing CCW quarter-turns to end up again facing partner

12 Bend body fwd pretending you are depositing your basket in front of you. (1, 2)

2. Travelling fwd passing R & L shoulders

1 With bent R arm against chest, stretching L arm straight bkwd, and turning body slightly left so your R shldr is facing person in front of you, walk fwd 4 steps (in a slight circular fashion) starting with R ft and passing R shldr with person in front of you

2 Continuing half circle, walk 4 more steps to meet new person

3-4 Switch arms, so L arm is bent, R arm is straight, and body turned slightly R, pass L shldrs with new person. As in meas 1-2, walk 8 steps to meet another new person.

5 Clap own hands twice (1, 2)

6 Bend fwd and pretend you are picking up your new basket (1), straighten body to resume tea picking position for Fig. 1 (2)

Repeat dance from beginning.

Presented by France Bourque-Moreau