

## 1960 SANTA BARBARA FOLK DANCE CONFERENCE

Presented by Elsie Dunin

## CORRIDO

## Mexican

The Mexican Corrido is a true folk ballad. Historically this form descended from the Spanish romance which flourished most brilliantly during the 14th and 15th centuries in Spain. The earliest Mexican example that bears a date was issued in Mexico City August 19, 1684.

The music for secular folk dances is in the form of songs. This dance Corrido, has developed from the ballad form. Three characteristic steps are noted in this dance: "soldado," a soldier stype of dancing from the revolutionary days; a dipping step commonly called the "grapevine;" and a typical sideward step-close.

**SOURCE:** Miss Avis Landis, a member of the Research Committee of the Folk Dance Federation of California, introduced this dance to the Federation. Miss Landis, who has been an active dancer and leader in the local Mexican colony in Oakland, danced Corrido in various parts of Mexico.

**MUSIC:** Record: Mexican Columbia 1613-C (original with vocal)  
Imperial 1137 (no vocal)

**FORMATION:** A double circle of couples in closed dance position\*, M with back to center and W facing center.

**STEPS:** Step-close\*; Soldado; Grapevine (Mexican dipping step).

## Music (4/4)

## Pattern

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- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| meas   | I. STEP-CLOSE, MOVING SIDEWARD   |
| A 1-5  | In closed position, couples move clockwise with 10 step-close steps. The hips sway easily in typical Mexican fashion.  |
|        | II. GRAPEVINE (Mexican Dipping Step)   |
| B 1-7  | Beginning with M's R and W's L execute 7 grapevine steps moving CCW.   |
| Eso Si | Grapevine Step: (Described for M; W begin with opposite ft.) Step R ft. across in front of L (ct. 1), step swd. L with L (ct. 2), step R ft. across in back of L (ct. 3), step swd. L with L (ct. 4). In this step partners watch feet and keep close to each other. |
| 8      | Step R ft. across L (ct. 1), stamp L ft. in place (ct. 2), stamp R ft. in place (ct. 3), hold (ct. 4). (W same with opposite ft.)  |
|        | III. STEP-CLOSE AND SOLDADO  |
| C 9-10 | In closed position, repeat step-close step 4 times in a CW direction. The Soldado step partners facing in closed position):  |
| 11     | Starting with M's R ft. and W's L ft., couples move to the center of circle, M moving bwd., W fwd. The step is a relaxed shuffle step in typical Mexican manner keeping ft. on floor. 4 steps moving twd. center   |

*continued...*

## Corrido (cont'd)

## meas III. Step-close and Soldado (cont'd)

- 12 Reverse direction moving away from center of the circle and slightly to M's L with 4 steps (M: R,L, R, L and W: L, R, L, R).
- 13-17 Repeat Soldado 5 more times, continuing to move toward and away from the center of the circle, at the same time progressing fwd. in LOD.
- 18 Moving away from the center of the circle, M steps fwd. on R (ct. 1), M stamps on L ft. (ct. 2), M stamps R (ct. 3), hold (ct. 4). W stamps with opposite ft. Both change weight for grapevine.

## IV. GRAPEVINE

- B 1-8 Repeat 7 grapevine steps, progressing CCW with same ending as in  
Eso Si Fig. II.

## Repetition with Variations

## I. STEP-CLOSE, MOVING SIDEWARD

- A 1-5 Action same as in Figure I. above.

## II. CROSS STEP WITH ONE TURN

Partners facing M hands clasped behind back, R hand holding L wrist. W holds skirt at sides. Moving to M's L, W's R, take the following step. (Described for M; W begin with opposite ft.)

- B 1 Step R across in front of L with an accent, lifting L off the floor  
Eso Si in back (ct. 1); step L in place (ct. 2); step R beside L (ct. 3); step L across R with accent; lifting R ft. off floor in back (ct. 4). During this action shoulders point alternately toward partner.
- 2 M takes a 4-step turn to his L away from partner starting with R ft. in back of L. W does same with opposite ft.
- 3-6 Repeat action of meas. 1-2 twice.
- 7 Repeat action of meas. 1.
- 8 Facing partner, M steps with R behind L (ct 1); stamp fwd. L (ct. 2); stamp R beside L (ct. 3); hold (ct. 4). W does same with opposite ft.

## III. STEP-CLOSE AND SOLDADO

- C 9-18 Repeat action of meas. 9-18 in first section.

## IV. GRAPEVINE WITH TWO TURNS

- B 1-8 Partners face each other, holding R hands shoulder height, M's L hand  
Eso Si held in back, W's L hand holds skirt. Progressing CCW, M takes grapevine step throughout as in meas. 1-8, Figure IV, first section.

*continued...*

## Corrido-Repetition with Variations (cont'd)

## IV. Grapevine with Two Turns (cont'd)

While M dances this plain grapevine step, W dances as follows:

- Meas. 1 Grapevine step
- 2 Two turns to R in 4 cts.
- 3-4 Repeat action of meas. 1-2.
- 5-6 Repeat action of meas. 1-2.
- 7 Grapevine step
- 8 Pivot turn, stepping on L (ct. 1); facing partner, stamp R (ct. 2); stamp L (ct. 3); hold (ct. 4).

## 2nd Repetition

This is performed exactly as in 1st section, with a slight variation in part IV as follows: Couples hold inside hands for grapevine step; W holds skirt with outside hand, M has outside hand in back; W accentuates movement of skirt with R hand and the dance ends with sharp stamps.

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