

EL NARANJO

(Mexico)

El Naranjo (nah-RAHN-hoh), meaning "the orange tree", is a lively dance from northern Mexico. It was introduced at the 1974 Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, California by Nelda Drury.

MUSIC: Record: L.P. Eco #207 "Polka Alegres", Express 410 B

FORMATION: Pts side by side facing LOD with inside hands crossed behind ptr back and joined with ptr outside hand. This is the position for the chorus. Dance all other figures facing ptr, M back to ctr of the circle with M thumbs at belt in front, W holding skirt at sides and using it freely.

STEPS AND STYLING: Step-brush-hop: Step L (ct 1); brush R ft diag fwd across in front of L (ct 2); hop on L (ct 3). Repeat with opp ftwk next meas.

Running Steps*

Heel-pas-de-basque step: Leap onto L to L (ct 1); step on R heel in front of L (ct 2); step L close to R (ct 3). Repeat with opp ftwk next meas.

Broken ankle step: Step on one ft turning ankle of free ft out, no wt. (Be sure to transfer wt onto supporting ft before turning ankle of free ft.) Ft alternate on these steps, which are danced in even rhythm, 3 per meas.

Jump-toe-toe: Small jump or bounce on both ft (ct 1); hop twice on L ft and tap R toe behind L ft twice, turning head and body slightly CCW with body also leaning slightly fwd (cts 2,3). Repeat with opp ftwk and direction next meas.

Toe-heel-cross: Leap onto L ft and tap R toe at R side (toe in, heel out and up) twisting body slightly CCW (ct 1); hop L and tap R heel at R side (heel in; toe out and up) twisting body slightly CW (ct 2); hop L and tap R toe across in front of L ft (ct 3). Repeat with opp ftwk and direction next meas.

Borrachito step: Leap onto flat R with accent, leading with R shldr fwd (ct 1); step on ball of L behind R (ct 2); step on R (ct 3). Repeat with opp ftwk next meas.

Toe-heel-cross with rock (2 meas): Dance the toe-heel-cross (cf above) (meas 1). Dance the rock with leap fwd onto R raising L behind close to R, keeping toe down (meas 2, ct 1); leap bkwd onto L raising R in front close to L with toe down (meas 2, ct 2); repeat action of meas 2, ct 1 again (meas 2, ct 3). Continuing into next 2 meas, repeat entire pattern with opp ftwk. During the rock there is no body bend fwd and back, but the feeling is up and down.

Ftwk is the same for both M and W throughout the dance.

*Described in Folk Dances from Near and Far, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., San Francisco, California.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures

INTRODUCTION - 3 pick-up notes

I. CHORUS

A 1-3 Beg L, dance 3 step-brush-hop steps fwd LOD.

4 Leaning slightly fwd from the waist, dance 3 running steps fwd LOD, kicking ft slightly up in back.

5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 three more times.

El Naranjo- (con't)

II. PAS DE BASQUES AND BROKEN ANKLE STEPS

B 17-20 Face ptr. Beg L, dance 2 heel-pas-de-basque steps fwd and 6 broken ankle steps bkwd away from ptr.

21-32 Repeat action of meas 17-20 (Fig II) three more times.

III. CHORUS

A 1-16 Repeat action of Fig. I.

IV. JUMP-TOE-TOE

B 17-32 Face ptr. Beg with hop on L, dance 16 Jump-toe-toe steps.

V. CHORUS

A 1-16 Repeat action of Fig I.

VI. TOE-HEEL-CROSS

B 17-32 Face ptr. Beg with leap onto L, dance 16 toe-heel-cross steps.

VII. CHORUS

A 1-16 Repeat action of Fig. I, taking wt on L on last ct.

VIII. BORRACHITO AND BROKEN ANKLE STEPS

B 17-20 Face ptr. Beg R, dance 2 borrachito steps fwd and 6 broken ankle steps bkwd away from ptr.

21-32 Repeat action of meas 17-20 (Fig VIII) three more times, but dancing only 5 broken ankle steps the last time, holding last ct.

IX. CHORUS

A 1-16 Repeat action of Fig I.

X. TOE-HEEL-CROSS WITH ROCK

B 17-30 Face ptr. Beg with leap onto L, dance 7 toe-heel-cross with rock steps. During meas 9-30 ptrs approach each other.

31 Ptrs turn (M 1/4 CCW; W 1/4 CW) with 1 toe-heel-cross step to finish side by side facing LOD.

32 Stamp LR (cts 1,2). Hold pose (ct 3).