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The music is well known folk song from the country villages of Taiwan: "The Plough Song". In olden times, on festival days in the country, groups of people would go from house to house, singing the plough song and performing a sort of masquerade. The characters included a farmer driving an "OX" with another man dressed up to represent the OX, and a young man and girl singing a duet about the country being wrapped up in scolding and witty answers. Nowadays, with the development of an industrial type of civilization in Taiwan and the modernization of agriculture, this old custom has practically died out. The song however, is still popular and is often heard.

The dancing style of "The OX-plough Song" belongs to "Chu Ku Nung."

PRONUNCIATION:

RECORD: C.C.S. 1980, Side _____, Band _____.

FORMATION: Cpls in a circle facing LOD, W on M'S R, inside hands joined with free hand on hip.

Ftwk same for both unless otherwise noted.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION:

- PART I:
- 1-3 Beginning with outside ft, take 3 light running steps fwd, lean body slightly fwd (cts 1,2,1), step bkwd on inside ft, body leans bkwd, look at ptr (ct 2), step-hop fwd on outside ft (cts 1-2).
- 4-6 Repeat meas 1-3, beginning with inside ft.
- 7-12 Drop hands and repeat ftwk of meas 1-6 while turning outward to make 1 full circle, end facing LOD.

PART II:

Ftwk described for M, W use opp ftwk, BOTH use same hand movements.

- 1 Turning body slightly to face ptr, step L across R while R lifts in back (ct 1), step R in place, facing LOD (ct 2).
- 2-3 Step L next to R (ct 1), hold (ct 2). Stamp R beside L (ct 1), hold (ct 2).
Arms, meas 1-3: Both hands in front of waist with elbows bent at sides and fingers almost closed; R moves fwd and makes a motion as if transplanting rice seedlings turning hand CW, L hand moves bkwd (cts 1-2). Reverse movement, CCW turn (cts 1-2). Both hands on hips (cts 1-2).

Continued...

- 4-6 Reverse meas 1-3 on R, hand movements are same.
7-12 Repeat meas 1-6, end-facing ptr, M back to ctr.

PART III:

- 1 Both beginning R, do a two-step diag R fwd (cts 1,&,2).
2 Step L across R and lift R bkwd, turn head to look at ptr (ct 1), step R in place and turn L to face ptr (ct 2).
3-4 Reverse meas 1-2 on L, diag L.
5-8 With 4 step-hops turn CW in place, lift free ft bkwd, bend knees, body sways from side to side.
9-12 4 step-hops turn CCW in place.

INTERLUDE:

- 1-4 M's hands on R shldr, W's hands on hip, cpls slightly step RLR LRL RLR LRL fwd in a CW circle around each other. End with wt on M's, W's L facing LOD.

Repeat from beginning.