

## **TRADITIONAL DANCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

*(see attached Description of Basic Dance Steps for directions for steps in the dances)*

### **FINLAND**



#### **KEHRUU VALSSI (SPINNING WALTZ)**

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| <p><b>Formation:</b></p>                          | <p>Double circle, partners face, man's back to center, both hands joined. Directions are for man, woman's part is reversed.</p>  |
| <p><b>Step Swing, Walk Three, Lady Turns:</b></p> | <p>Step to left, swing right across left, step to right, swing left across right.</p>  |
| <p><b>Measures 1-2:</b></p>                       | <p>3-4: Man, beginning left, takes 3 steps sideways to left and swings right across left. Woman, beginning right, takes a 3-step turn clockwise and finishes swinging left across right. Both advance in line of direction.</p>              |
| <p>5-6:</p>                                       | <p>Beginning right, repeat measures 1-2.</p>   |
| <p>7-8:</p>                                       | <p>Repeat measures 3-4 in reverse line of direction, except that woman takes 3 steps to left and man takes 3-step turn clockwise.</p>  |
| <p><b>Balance and Walking Turn:</b></p>           | <p>9-10: Partners face, join two hands. Balance forward together, arms swinging out to side, balance backward apart, arms swinging in together.</p>  |
| <p>11-12:</p>                                     | <p>Arms swing out to side shoulder height and partners moving into left reverse open position, take 6 <b>walking steps</b>, turning clockwise, Finish in original position.</p>  |
| <p>13-14:</p>                                     | <p>Partners balance apart and then together.</p>   |
| <p>15-16:</p>                                     | <p>Woman takes 2 <b>waltz steps</b>, turning clockwise under man's left arm and progresses in line of direction to next man. Man takes one small balance step backward and one balance step forward to receive new partner.</p>              |
| <p><b>Variation:</b></p>                          | <p>3-4: Man's left hand, woman's right hand joined, free hand on hip. Man takes 2 <b>draw steps</b> to left, woman twirls under raised arm.</p>  |
| <p>5-6:</p>                                       | <p>Repeat measures 1-2.</p>  |
| <p>7-8:</p>                                       | <p>Man's right hand, woman's left hand joined, free hand on hip. Woman takes 2 <b>draw steps</b> to right, man turns under raised arm.</p>   |
| <p>9-10:</p>                                      | <p>Closed position. Take 2 <b>draw steps</b>, moving in line of direction. Step left (count 1), hold (count 2), close right to left (count 3), step left (count 1), hold (count 2), close right to left without taking weight (count 3).</p> |
| <p>11-12:</p>                                     | <p>Take 2 <b>draw steps</b>, moving in reverse line of direction.</p>  |
| <p>13-16:</p>                                     | <p>Take 4 <b>waltz steps</b>, turning clockwise, progressing in line of direction. Do not twirl at end.</p>  |



## FRANCE



### AUPRES DE MA BLONDE

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| <b>Formation:</b>  | Circle of dancers (no partners), all join hands facing the center, women to right of men.  |
| <b>Figure I:</b>   | Circle left (8 beats); circle right (8 beats).<br>Women move toward the center and form a circle (8 beats), while the men form a circle around them.<br>Men circle left (8 beats), while women circle right.<br>Reverse and circle in opposite direction (8 beats).  |
| <b>Figure II:</b>  | The women move back becoming the outer circle, while at the same time the men duck under the women's joined hands as the men move toward the center. After arriving at the center, the men make an about-turn clockwise and rejoin hands (8 beats).<br>Men circle left, women circle right (8 beats); then reverse direction (8 beats).<br>Men advance to their places in the original circle while continuing to face outward (8 beats).<br>All circle counter-clockwise (8 beats). |
| <b>Figure III:</b> | Circle clockwise (8 beats). Men do right turn, face center and join hands with each other above the heads of the women - all will have to move toward the center slightly (8 beats).   |
| <b>Figure IV:</b>  | Each of the women stops in front of a male partner, facing him. Each dancer makes 4 turns in place, the women turning right (clockwise) and the men turning left (counter-clockwise). The foot is stamped on the heavy beats of the music as the dancer is turning (16 beats).<br>Each woman turns to the man to the left of the one with whom she was turning. They join both hands and make 6 clockwise turns together.  |

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| <b>Formation:</b>  | Single circle, women to the right of men. All hands joined.   |
| <b>Figure I:</b>   | Step to left on left foot. Bring right to left.<br>Step to left on left foot. Bring right to left.<br>Swing left foot forward, back and in place with slight bending of knees.<br>Repeat.   |
| <b>Figure II:</b>  | With slight hop on right foot, place left heel forward, place right heel forward, then 4 quick changes, left, right, left and right. Again place left heel forward, then right, and 3 quick changes and bring feet together. This is similar to the <b>Bleking Step</b> .<br>Repeat Figure I. |
| <b>Figure III:</b> | Repeat Figure II facing partner. Cup left elbow in right palm when placing left heel forward and shake finger at partner. Cup right elbow in left palm when placing right heel forward, etc. Face center and join hands to repeat all.  |