

SIAMSA BEIRTE (Sheem-suh Berta)

Irish

MUSIC: Record: Parlophone MIP 306, "Bluebell Polka", or any good hornpipe.

FORMATION: Ptrs face with R hands joined at shoulder height, elbows bent and down, M with back to ctr of circle. Free hand hangs at side.

STEPS: Threes, rock, promenade. A complete description with meas. and ct. is given in Let's Dance, October 1951, and in Folk Dances From Near and Far, Vol VII. The steps are described for the M, the W does the counter part.

Note: The step pattern for Siamsa Beirte begins on the 4th ct and each meas. description includes the 4th ct. of the preceding meas.

MUSIC: slow 4/4 hornpipe

MeasuresPattern

- I. Threes, Rock
- (a) Moving to M L, M hop on R in place (ct 4).
- 1 Step to L on L (ct 1), step on R behind L (ct 2), step to L on L (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat meas. 1 Fig I, using opp ft and moving in opp direction.
- (b) Note: This step is done in one place and is very quick and subtle. Do not move away from ptr. One ft. replaces the other on the hop. On the rock the wt. is transferred from the ball of one ft. to the ball of the other ft.
- 3-4 Hop on R ft. in place (ct 4), bring L behind R, then step on L (ct 1), now hop on L (ct 2), bring R behind L and step on R ct. 3); hop on R (ct 4), bring L behind R and rock L, R, L (ct 1, 2, 3).
- 5-8 Repeat action of Fig I meas 1-4 beg ML, WR & moving in R LOD.
- II. Change Places, Promenade
- 9-10 (a) Repeat action of Fig. I (a), meas. 1. Then M and W change places using 1 "three"; hop, step, step, step. M makes half turn CW, W moves CCW into M place, turning under R hands which are still joined. W also does 1 "three" step.
- 11-12 Repeat action of II. meas. 9-10, moving against LOD and changing places so M is again on inside of circle.
- 13-16 (b) both hands joined with ptr. R joined over, L joined under. Do a continuous turn CW, moving CCW with 4 promenade steps; hop, step, step, step.
- Note: On the Promenade (swing), ptrs are close, elbows bent forearms upright. Variation on hand hold for promenade (swing): M rolls joined R hand twd him and under their joined L hands to finish with R hands near W, L hands near M, W arms resting on M arms with elbows held out horizontally.