

LI JARDINIERO - The Gardinera

A Garland dance from Provence pub first in Dancof France II, Provence & Alsace, by N Tennevin and M Texier pub Max Parrish, London 1951.

Dance for 8 couples ; the women carry a garland decorated with flowers, the men carry a basket of flowers.

Step ; except for the first figure it is a polka or change-step with little or no spring.

Formation ; start in two parallel columns of 4 couples, men on the outside.

ONCE TO SELF

m w w m

Stand in formation and sing verse,

m w w m

"Sian touti gento jardiniero, Que n'aven de fru en
tout temps,

m w w m

m w w m

E aven li flour li plus bello, Li venden touti ben jouvent.
Se voulis crumpa de roso, De belli flour de jaussemin,
De pessegue de poumo roso, de poumo roso,
Lis aven dins noste jardin, Lis aven dins noste jardin."

This is in 4/4, the dance is in jig time, 6/8.

FIG 1 - Change with partner.

All facing up, take one polka step sideways to form a single file with partner, women in front of men (1 bar), then 3 cross steps on the spot, alternating foot in front, changing positions with low springs (1 bar). Repeat these two bars to reach partners place. Repeat these 4 bars to end in starting place, but end facing partner. (8 bars in all)

- Sway to partner.

All facing partner, take one polka step to right (1 bar) and end feet together. Sway garland to right and to left quickly (1 bar). Repeat to left, then right and then left again (8 bars in all) finishing facing up and linking arms with partner.

FIG 2 - Cast into double circle.

Pairs in the left hand column cast to their right, inwards, and those in the right hand column to their left, also inwards, go down 4 in line, and cast out at the bottom coming round in a broad sweep to end in a double circle. As the women are on the outside, the pair rotate in the finishing position till the woman is on the inside and facing the centre, with her partner behind her, (16 bars) and the women make arches with their garlands by taking the left side of their own with their right hand and the right side of their neighbour's into her left hand, that is pass them to the right to make an arch across the gap between the dancers. This could be done progressively around the ring by each dancer turning as in The Rose.

- Arches

The men dance in and out through the arches, first going under the arch to the right of their partner, and out through the next etc, all the way round the set

Jardiniero 2.

anticlockwise until back in their initial places for the movement.(16 bars)
FIG 3 - Bower

One man only goes to the centre of the set taking his partners left hand end of a garland with him. The other women follow this woman anticlockwise round the set each in turn handing the same man the garland end in their left hand. Finish with the man in the centre holding all of one ends and the women facing in with the other end of the garland in front of them.(16 bars)

- Circle round.

The centre man and all the women stand still while the other men dance clockwise once around the outside, facing in and out on alternate polka steps, for 16 bars. End in initial place behind partner.

- Regain garland.

Each woman starting with the left foot and going anti-clockwise around the man in the centre, takes the other end of her garland in her left hand and continues round to end in the double circle, men on the outside. The men move forward taking partner's left hand end of garland in their left hand and linking men's right with partner's left arm.(16 bars)

FIG 4 - Exit

Pairs dance round in a circle clockwise to end in a single line across the dancing area, shoulder to shoulder facing up.(16 bars)

All sing the verse a second time - to first tune not the jig.

Men turn left & change hand holding garland so that all now in two lines with a tunnel of garlands between partners. From one end start going under the remaining arches and lead off.

VARIATIONS

Many come to mind eg partners share the garlands for the cast in Fig 2 and then the men dance round their partner releasing the end of a garland to form the arches etc. Also for the finish.