**El Escondido**
(Argentina)

"El Escondido" (ehl EHS-con-DEE-doh) is an old dance from the northeastern part of Argentina. The name refers to the Argentinian version of the game "hide and seek" and the dancers pretend they are playing this game in some of the figures. This is a single-cpt dance.

**CASSETTE:** Danzas Argentinas #1 6/8 meter

**FORMATION:** (1clp): pts face each other in a line going across the diagonal of an imaginary square.

```
    M
   /|
 /  |
|
W
```

**STEPS & STYLING:** All the figures start with the left ft. * See glossary for description.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>PATTERN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 meas</td>
<td><strong>INTRODUCTION.</strong> Stand in place clapping hands <em>(&quot;palmas&quot;)</em> to the beat of the music.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **4 ESQUINAS CON BALANCEO**

1-2 Beg on L ft. perform 1 *basic step,* (2 meas) with arms rounded and held diag forward high. hands at approx eye height (basic arm pos). M and W travel in CW direction to next corner of the imaginary square. turning 360 deg CCW along the way. Fingers snap to the rhythm of the music.

3 In new corner, starting L ft. 1 pas de bas to the left.

4 Rep meas 3. opp ftwk and direction.

5-16 Rep meas 1-4, 3 times. traveling to new corner each 4 meas. Reach starting pos at end.

```
    M
   /|
 /  |
|
W
```

II. **VUELTE - LARGE CCW CIRCLE**

1-8 Beginning on L ft. perform 4 *basic steps* (2 meas each), with arms held in *basic pos and fingers snapping to beat of music. Describe one large, CCW circle, passing through each other’s pos and ending back in starting pos. M, W use same ftwk. On meas 8, M performs only the first step on R ft. and actually begins the stamping pattern of the next figure for the rest of the meas.

```
    M
   /|
 /  |
|
W
```

III. **M: *ZAPATEO, W: HIDE WITH *PALMAS**

1-8 M: With L hand in belt buckle. R arm down at side. perform *zapateo steps* towards W. beginning with L ft (seeking).

1 W: 1/2 turn to L with L ft, facing away from M (ct 1.2); step slightly fwd with R ft (ct 3); point L ft fwd (ct 4-6).
IV. VUELTE - LARGE CCW CIRCLE

1-8
Beginning on L ft, perform 4 *basic steps (2 meas each), with arms held in *basic pos and fingers snapping to beat of music. Describe one large, CCW circle, ending back in starting pos. M, W use same ftkw. M follows W closely for 6 meas, then turns back to his original pos on meas 7,8.

V. ZARANDEO - M HIDES WITH *PALMAS

1-3
W: Ftwk is the *basic step, starting with L ft, L hand is on waist and R hand holds skirt out to R side. Travel towards R side of ptr, trying to catch his eye.

4-5
Travel twd L side of ptr, trying to find him and moving R arm and skirt to L side.

6-8
Travel back to starting pos, while moving R arm and skirt to R side.

1
M: 1/2 turn to L with L ft. facing away from W (cts 1-2); step slightly fwwd with R ft (ct 3); point L ft fwwd (ct 4-6).

2-8
Look over L shoulder at W, do *palmas to beat of music.

VI. AURA - MEDIA VUELTA - 1/2 CCW CIRCLE

1-4
Beginning with L ft, perform 2 basic steps, with basic arm pas, describing a 1/2 CCW circle, ending in opp pos.

VII. GIRO FINAL - FINAL SMALL CIRCLE

1-2
One basic step starting L ft, arms in basic pos, M and W describe 1/2 a small circle, meeting in center of square and passing back to back.

3
With L ft, step away from ptr (cts 1-2); pivot 180 deg on L ft to face ptr (ct 3); step R ft fwwd twd ptr (cts 3-6).

4
M and W point L ft fwwd and put R hand on ptr's L shoulder (ct 1); Hold cts 2-6.

Presented by Nora Dinkelbacher
Statewide Institute May 28, 1994