

25. MIDNIGHT BLUES

Music	- Blues 4/4
Tempo	- 22 measures of 4 beats per minute - 88 beats per minute
Pattern	- SET
Duration	- The time required to skate 2 sequences is 1:38 min.

The Midnight Blues should be skated with strong edges and deep knee action to achieve the desired slow, rhythmic, relaxed and easygoing expression. Individual interpretation by the couple to add Blues character is permitted, provided that the steps, free leg positions and positions/holds are maintained. The dance must be skated with the full pattern and deep lobes as described in the diagram.

"The Beginning Section" - steps 1 - 4

The dance begins with the couple in an unusual open position (reverse foxtrot hold) skating progressive *steps 1* and *2* (which mirror each other), and should be skated on an even lobe that starts towards the center of the rink. On *step 3*, the lady skates two fast "behind cross foot" three turns (*steps 3a, 3b*), turning on the last ½ count of beat 3 and the last ½ count of beat 4 while the man joins her as he skates his RFO "behind cross foot" three turn, turning on the last ½ count of beat 4.

On *step 4a*, the man passes the lady, (to track behind her) while they assume a brief "Kilian" hold (with both of his hands on her hips). On this step (*4* for the Lady), they commence with the free foot remaining crossed behind, they then skate with 'fan' leg kicks, ending with back coupées (on count 3) after which the lady skates a slight change of edge on count 4 while the man steps forward on a RFI (*step 4 b*) on count 4 of the same measure.

"The Swing Change to the Tuck" - steps 5 - 9

The couple skate two 1 beat progressive/run steps (*steps 5 & 6*) in closed hold before assuming outside hold during the swing before the change of edge for the beginning of *step 7*. On *step 7*, the man skates an LFO while swinging the free leg forward on count 4 of the measure, changes edge to LFI and swings his free leg back on count 1 of the next measure, turns his three on count 2 of the next measure (while resuming closed hold), concluding with a leg lift. The lady matches this step with an RBO with back free leg swing, changing to RBI with forward free leg swing before her back three turn and leg lift. On count 1 of the next measure, the man skates a cross in front RBI (*step 8*) while the lady performs an LFI progressive/run. He skates a wide LBI (*step 9a*), then an RBO (*step 9b*) concluding with a leg tuck on count 4, while the lady steps wide onto her *step 9*, turns her RFI three turn on count 2, and moves into a brief Kilian hold and concludes with a matching leg tuck.

"The Swoop" - steps 10 - 12

This section of the dance begins on count 1 with *step 10*, a cross in front LBI for the man and an LFO for the lady in closed hold. The man commences his long 9- beat

step 11 on count 2, turns an RBO three turn on count 3, executes a front coupée-RFI bracket on count 4, a coupée behind on count 1 of the next measure; he then holds the RBO edge with his free foot extended back for 3 more counts whereupon he skates a change of edge (after which outside hold is assumed), extends his free leg forward (placing his left ankle under the lady's left ankle while she is in "attitude" position) for 2 beats, and concludes with an RFI rocker on the "and" at the end of count 2 of the next measure. The lady, during the man's *step 11*, skates a right progressive (*step 11a*), then an LFO front coupée three turn (*step 11b*) while he turns his bracket. For *step 11 c*, after an RBO three turn turned under his left arm (turned on count 2 of the next measure), they resume closed hold. She extends her left leg backward, and as she changes edge to an outside, they assume outside "hand to hand" hold (so the lady is now facing the man with both hands extended) and places her extended bent left leg behind her (across her tracing) in her "attitude" position (where his left ankle touches hers) for 2 beats (counts 1 & 2 of the next measure). They conclude this step with her RFO rocker and his RFI rocker on the "and" between counts 2 and 3. On count 3 the man then thrusts strongly (in reverse outside hold) on to an LFO (*step 12*) for his LFO three on count 4, while she skates a cross in front LFI and then turns her counter-clockwise twizzle of 1 revolution, on count 4 as well, followed by a very short RBO on "and".

"The Edge Section" - steps 13 - 16

On *step 13*, the lady skates a 4 beat LFO. The man skates a 2-beat RBO (*step 13a*) in closed hold and an LFO (*step 13b*) for 2 beats in open hold. The couple skate an RFO cross roll (*step 14*) as the man turns his three turn on count 2 and extends his free leg to match the lady's 4 beat swing roll. This is followed by an LFO three turn for the lady turned on count 2 of the next measure (her *step 15*), while he skates an LFO (*step 15a*), cross behind RFI (*step 15b*); concluding with a 2 beat outside edge for both (*step 16* - an LFO for the man and an RBO for the lady).

"The Ina Bauer" - steps 17 - 21

The man commences with a cross roll onto an RFO (*step 17a*) and on count 2 skates a cross behind LFI into an "Ina Bauer" for 2 counts. The lady skates a back cross roll LBO turning a three turn on count 2, joining the man in Kilian hold to match the "Ina Bauer" (both with body weight on the LFI and the right foot in reverse position on an RFI) followed by a fast three turn on the count of "and" (without lifting the right foot off the ice). On count 1, both skate a 2-beat cross in front RFI (*step 18*), followed by a very fast LFI (stepped wide by both) on the "and" between counts 2 & 3. The section concludes (on *step 19*) when the man skates an RBO for 4 counts while the lady steps onto an RBO and immediately turns a back twizzle of 1 revolution on count 4, then holds the edge for 2 beats extending her leg to match the man. Both conclude with a progressive/run, on beats 3 & 4 (*step 20* - LFO, and *step 21* - RFI)

"The Layover /Layback" - steps 22 - 23

This section begins in Kilian hold with an LFO (*step 22*) for both skaters on count 1. *Step 23* commences on count 2, then the lady skates an RFI rocker on count 3 and briefly tucks her leg, holding the back edge for count 4 and assuming a "layback" position on count 1 of the next measure. The man skates his RFI change of edge at the same time as the lady skates her rocker on count 3, changing to outside hold.

Continuing on his right foot, on count 1 the man assumes a "layover" position, skating on his RFO with his free leg extended backwards while supporting the lady in her "layback" position (on her RBI) with her left leg extended to parallel the line of the man's free leg. Their body positions should also be parallel and they should be as horizontal to the ice as possible. These positions are held for 2 beats and are completed when they rise up to execute matching double three turns on counts 3 & 4. During the three turns the man moves his partner from his right side to his left side in preparation for the next step.

"The Concluding Section" - steps 24 – 26

The dance is concluded by the man skating *step 24* as cross roll LFO three turn (outside hold) on count 2, while the lady skates her LBI (*step 24*) followed by the couple skating an RBO in Kilian position (*step 25*) on count 3. On count 4, the lady skates a cross cut LBI (*step 26a*) while the man commences his *step 26* with a cross cut. The lady then skates her *step 26b* with an RBO swing roll as they mirror each other in reverse foxtrot hold in preparation for the restart of the dance while the man matches her leg swing.

Definitions:

- Attitude:** The free leg is bent at a 90 degree angle, and brought up, out and behind.
- Behind**
Cross-Foot Three: A three turn skated with the free foot crossed in behind the skating foot instead of at the heel.
- Coupée:** The free foot is held up in contact with the skating leg from an open hip position so that the free foot is at right angles to the skating foot.
- Cross Cuts:** Similar to cross roll as free leg crosses skating leg above the knee but skated wide onto same (not contrasting) curve.
- Fan Leg Kick:** The free leg swings in an arc (45 degree angle) to the skating leg at hip height, or higher.
- Ina Bauer:** A movement on two feet in which the weight is on the front foot with the back foot extended in the opposite direction but behind the tracing of the leading (front) foot.
- Tuck:** The free foot is held up in contact with the skating leg from a closed hip position (just below the knee).
- Inventors Roy, Sue, and Mark Bradshaw and Julie MacDonald.
First Performance Vancouver, Canada: March 2001

MIDNIGHT BLUES

Hold	Step No.	Man's Step	Number of beats of music		Lady's Step	
Open	1	RFO		1	LFI	
	2	LFI		1	RFO	
	3a	RFO/	$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$	LFI XFt3
	3b	RFO XFt3	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$	RFO XFt 3
"Kilian" -both man's hands on lady's hips)	4a	XB-LBO 'fan' leg kick to back coupé on count 3	3		<u>3 + 1</u>	XB-LBOI ('fan' leg kick to back coupé on count 3 change on ct 4)
	4b	RFI (on count 4)	1			
Closed	5	LFO		1		RBO
	6	RFI-Pr		1		LBI-Pr
Outside/ Closed	7	LFOI3		2+1+3		RBOI3
	8	XF – RBI		1		LFI-Pr
Kilian	9a	Wd-LBI	1		1 + 2	Wd-RFI (on count 1)/ <u>RFI3</u> followed by leg tuck
	9b	RBO concluded with leg tuck	2			
Closed Closed -- -at ch of edge to Outside Hand to Hand with arms extended	10	XF-LBI		1		LFO
	11a	RBO3/	1 + 1		1	RFI-Pr
	11b	-front coupée - RFI Br/ RBO -coupée behind	<u>+5</u>		1 + 1	Front coupée LFO3
	11c	-extension for RBOI/ <u>RBI-Rk</u> (between 2 & 3)	<u>+2</u> "and"		$1 + \frac{3}{2}$ <u>+ 2</u> "and"	RBO3/ RFIO/ RFO-Rk (between 2 & 3)
Reverse Outside Hand to Hand with arms extended	12	LFO3	1 + 1		1 + 1 "and"	XF-LBI Tw1 RBO

MIDNIGHT BLUES continued

Hold	Step No.	Man's Step	Number of beats of music			Lady's Step
	13a	RBO	2		4	LFO
Open	13b	LFO	2			
Closed	14	CR-RFOSw3	1 + 3		4	CR - RFO SwR
	15a	LFO	1		1 + 1	LFO3
	15b	XB-RFI	1			
	16	LFO		2		RBO
Kilian	17a	CR -RFO	1		1 + 1	CR -LBO3/
	17b	XB-LFI InBa /LFI3 (between counts 4 & 1)	1 + 2 "and"		+ 2 "and"	LFI InBa /LFI3 (between counts 4 & 1)
	18	XF -RBI Wd- LBI (between 2 & 3)		2 "and"		XF -RBI Wd-LBI (between 2 & 3)
	19	RBO	4		1+3	RBOtw1/RBO
	20	LFO		1		LFO
	21	RFI - Pr		1		RFI - Pr
	22	LFO		1		LFO
Outside	23	RFI/RF0 with layover on count 1 /RFO3/RBI3		1+2 +2 +1 +1		RFI-Rk/RBI with layback on count 1/ RBI3/RFO3
	24	CR LFO3	1 + 1		2	LBI
Kilian	25	RBO		1		RBO
Open	26a	X-Cut LBI SwR	5		1	X-Cut LBI
	26b				4	RBO SwR

