

## QUE PUDE SER?

Choreographed by Paul Boizot 2019, music "Que Pude Ser?" by Almara; the singer is Elizabeth (Lisa) Pauwelke. The lyrics are a poem, in Spanish, by the Portuguese writer Jorge de Montemor (Spanish: Jorge de Montemayor) (1520?-1561).

Formation; circle. Rhythm 4/4. Steps are marked slow (s) = 2 beats or quick (q) = 1 beat; the dance steps are always slow-quick-quick except for the last bar. Start after the instrumental intro, on the strong beat, on the fourth syllable of the singing ("ser").

1. Arms down unjoined,  $\cap$  in a little diagonally to the right R s, Lxf q left arm comes across in front around waist height, replace R q left arm beginning to return to V;  
In a little diagonally to the left L s, Rxf q right arm comes across in front around waist height, replace L q right arm beginning to return to V;  
 $\cap\downarrow$  R s, L q, R q;  
L s, close R q,  $\cap\uparrow$  L q (arms can swing loosely a small amount, back and forward twice, on these last six steps). x 2.

2. Arms V.  $\supset\rightarrow$  R s, L q, R q right hand can be held a little forward if unjoined;  
Expansive half turn anti-clockwise in 3 steps extending left arm out to side below horizontal L s, R q, L q;  
Broadly facing  $\subset\leftarrow$  Rxf s right arm comes across in front around waist height,  $\subset\rightarrow$  rock back on L q right arm beginning to return to V,  $\subset\leftarrow$  replace R slightly forward of where it was q right arm returning to V;  
Lxf s,  $\subset\rightarrow$  rock back on R q,  $\subset\leftarrow$  replace L slightly forward of where it was q arms - on these last 3 steps mirror the arms on 3 previous steps;  
 $\subset\leftarrow$  R s, L q, R q right hand can be held a little forward if unjoined;  
Expansive three-quarter turn anti-clockwise in 3 steps extending left arm out to side below horizontal L s, R q, L q;  
 $\cap\uparrow$  R s, in place L q, R q;  
 $\cap\downarrow$  L s, touch R s.

The dance pauses at the end of certain sections of the music (at approx. 1.35, 2.45, 4.25 and 5.00 in the original unedited music), where there is an extra bar in addition to the normal 8-bar sequence – before the chorus ("Que Pude Ser"), or a repeat of it at the very end, comes in again. This is always at the end of the second part of the dance, so you simply hold the touch step for longer, and restart part 1 after the extra beats – so the dance continues to fit to the musical phrases.

Non-turning options in part 2; replace first turn with  $\cap\leftarrow$  sL s, close R q, sL q. Replace second turn with  $\subset\rightarrow$  L s,  $\cap\rightarrow$  sR q, close L q.

There are various options for when you join hands – 1. do the whole dance unjoined – easier! 2. join hands at the end of part 1 (and its repeat) on the backward steps and the back yemenite, continuing into the first bar of part 2. 3. join hands at the end of part 2 after the turn. 4. both 2 and 3.

Lyrics; ¿Qué pude ser\*, señora, antes que os viese,  
pues viéndoos cobré el ser que no tenía?  
¿Qué pudo ver sin vos el alma mía,  
o que sería de mí si así no fuese?

Según ahora me siento, aunque viviese,  
no era el alma, no, por quien vivía,  
que un natural instinto me regía,

hasta que vuestro rostro ver pudiese.

Y viendo el resplandor y hermosura  
del rostro transparente y delicado  
do tanta perfición pintó natura,

de vos recibí un ser tan extremado,  
que no pudiendo haber en mí mal cura  
lo sufro y me sustento en mi cuidado.

\* also given as “ Qué puede ser”

Google translation - Poem What Can It Be, Lady...  
What could I have been, lady, before I saw you, Well,  
seeing you, did I gain the being that I didn't have?  
What could my soul see without you, Or what would  
happen to me if it weren't like that? The way I feel  
now, even if I lived, It was not the soul, no, for whom  
he lived, that a natural instinct governed me, until your  
face could see. And seeing the brilliance and beauty  
of the transparent and delicate face He painted nature  
with so much perfection, From you I received such an  
extreme being, that there can be no evil cure in me I  
suffer it and I rely on my care.

Another translation– What can it be, lady? before I  
behold you, Then beholding you I paid attention to  
what I didn't have? What can i see without you in my  
soul?  
or what would become of me if you weren't like this?

And by now I'm feeling,  
Although I have lived,  
It wasn't life from the soul, no, for whom i lived,  
But a mere natural instinct that guided me,  
Until I could behold your face

And beholding the splendor and the beauty of a face  
so transparent and delicate  
That with such perfection nature has drawn.

From you I've received an state of being so extreme.  
that there couldn't be in my ail healing  
I suffer and sustain myself in my care.

<https://lyricstranslate.com/en/%C2%BFqu%C3%A9-puede-ser-se%C3%B1ora-what-can-it-be-lady.html-0#songtranslation>

Paul Boizot revised 31.03.24