

Berlin Competition - 2002 First Time

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CLUB BERLIN - I was crazy enough to enter the Berlin Dance competition. After two abortive attempts to get a partner and a routine for the Uof T Festival of Dance, I stumbled into someone who was just as keen to 'show' off. So, off we went. The air crackled with energy from both the crowd and the competitors who all cheered everyone's efforts in a very crowded venue.

We did not advance to the semi finals, but did we ever have some fun! The winners danced more jazz than salsa while we stuck to traditional latin dance figures which were clearly recognizable as salsa. We did throw in 2 dips, two nice sitdowns on the knee and a number of turns, some old style side turns, x-body leads as well as old side break figures - all packed into a two minute timeframe with music unknown before the competition.



Setting Up Another Figure



A Crowd Stopping Dip

We must have made some impression on the judges and the organizers, as these two illustrations were posted on the www.tosalsa.com website. Lighting levels were rather challenging and PhotoShop can only work so much magic. Of the six amateur couples who competed on 12 Mar, only four couples' photographs were posted. And we were not even selected for the semi finals.

The amateur semi-finals run on Tues. 19 March and the professional semi-finals run on Tues. 26 March with the finals on Sat 6 April 2002 at Ontario Place's Club Atlantis.