

BOIEREASCA

Romania (Region of Moldavia)

Boiereasca (boh-yair-YAHSS-kah, 'noblemen's dance') is a variant of the Hora mare ('big hora'), a Romanian dance type widespread throughout the southern and eastern parts of that country. It was the favorite dance of Mr. Gheorghe Croitor, an immigrant from whom I learned it in 1953.

MUSIC: Any lively Hora mare tune can be used. Mr. Croitor enjoyed dancing Boiereasca to Klezmer-type freylekhs melodies.

FORMATION: Closed circle, mixed men, women and children. Hands are joined and held a bit forward at about shoulder height ("W" position).

METER: 2/4

ACTION

Meas

- 1 Facing ctr, step Lft slightly to L (1); point R toe in front of Lft (2).
- 2 Still facing ctr, step Rft slightly to R (1); point L toe in front of Rft (2).
- 3 Facing very slightly R of ctr, step with Lft diagonally forward/R so that entire circle contracts (1); step Rft in same direction (2).
- 4 Step Lft again diagonally forward/R, finishing the movement in this direction (1) and pause, turning to face directly toward ctr of circle (2).
- 5 Balance back (away from ctr) with step onto Rft (1); pause (2).
- 6 Balance forward (toward ctr) with step onto Lft (1); pause (2).
- 7 Facing very slightly L of ctr, step with Rft diagonally back/R so that entire circle begins to expand (1); step Lft in same direction (2).
- 8 Step Rft again diagonally back/R, finishing the movement in this direction (1) and pause, turning to face directly toward ctr of circle (2).

NOTE: The whole pattern of Boiereasca traces a "pie slice" on the floor: forward diagonally right during meas 3-4, and backward diagonally right during meas 7-8. The entire dance thus moves gradually counterclockwise, contracting and expanding, while the music plays.

Notes by Dick Crum, revised 3/91.

Presented by Dick Crum at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 1994