

Presented by Stephen Kotansky

BRIUL PE OPT
Muntenia, Rumania

Briul or Briule (plural form) is found throughout Rumania in various forms, but mainly in the south. This particular Briul de opt is a collection of steps from Muntenia that was learned between 1972 and 1980 from various village and amateur groups and from a very close friend, profesor Leonte Socaciu of Bucharest, Rumania.

TRANSLATION: Briul (belt dance) in eight

PRONUNCIATION: Bree-oow peh Ohpt

RECORD: Any good Briul in an eight melody, i.e. Balkan Arts 707b

FORMATION: Shoft lines in belt hold (L over R), facing ctr. R ft free.

METER: 4/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION or GETTING UP THE COURAGE:

- 1 Step R to R (ct 1), close L to R (ct 2), repeat step-close (cts 3-4).
- 2-8 Repeat meas 1 to R. During this period of getting into the music whitty "strigaturi" or verses are usually shouted. Either in unison or antiphonally; i.e.:
 Si la briu, la briu, la briu
 Si la secera de griu
 Cire so lâsa de briu
 Sa dea ciofa cu rachiu

FIG. I: WARM UP OR SIDE STEP

- 1 Step R to R (ct 1), close L to R (ct 2), step L to L (ct 3) close R to L (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 of Intro (step-close to R)
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

FIG. II:

- 1 Turning to face diag L of ctr, lift on L and extend R straight and low in front of L (ct 1); step R (accent) diag L of ctr lifting L up and behind R (ct &); hold (ct 2); step L back in place turning to face ctr (ct &); Leap R on R (cts 3,&); step L across R (ct 4).
- 2 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving LOD, hop on L and lift R knee up and in front of L (ct 1); step R to R (ct &); step L across R (ct 2); repeat cts 1,&,2 (hop-step-step) (cts 3,&,4).
 Note: This hop-step-step will now be referred to as the "Closing Motif" and will reappear in various forms.
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

FIG. III:

- 1 Turning slightly L of ctr, lift on L and flick R to side (ct 1); Close R to L (ct &); step L diag bkwd L (ct 3); close R to L (ct &); step L bkwd (ct 4); hold (ct &).

- 2 Repeat meas 2, Fig. II (Closing Motif), moving diag fwd to orig pos.
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

FIG. IV:

- 1 Facing ctr, jump onto both ft about 19-3/4" or approx 49 cm or shldr width in preperation for a click (ct 1); click both heels together in the air (ct &); land on L (ct 2); step R behind L (ct &); step L to L (ct 3); step R in front of L (ct &); step L in place (ct 4).
- 2 Hop on L in place lifting R knee up (ct 1); stamp R to R with wt (ct &); close L to R (ct 2); stamp R heel to R (ct &); close L to R (ct 3); stamp R heel to R (ct &); close L to R (ct 4).
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

FIG. V:

- 1 Facing ctr, hop on L and lift R knee up in front of L (ct 1); step R across L (accented) (ct &); step L bkwd (ct 2); step R fwd (ct &); hold (ct 3); hop on R and bring L knee up in front of R (ct &); step L in place (ct 4).
Cue: Hop, step, step, step hop, step.
- 2-4 Repeat meas 1,
- 5-8 Moving bkwd in "reel" fashion repeat meas 1-4

FIG. VI:

- 1 Hop on L lifting R knee up (ct 1); stamp R slightly in front of L (12 noon)(ct &); step L in place (ct 2); stamp R slightly R of where you last stamped (1 P.M.)(ct &); step L in place (ct 3); stamp R still further R and to side (2 A.M.)(like an arch ~~th~~)(ct &); step L in place (accent) (ct 4).
- 2 Hop L in place, lifting R knee up (ct 1); stamp R in front of L (ct &); step L in place (ct 2); hop on L in place lifting R knee up (ct 3); stamp R slightly R of L (ct &); step L in place (ct 4).
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).


FIG. VIIa

- 1 Flick or kick L across R (ct 1); step R across L (ct &), step L back in place (ct 2); step R to R (ct &); step L across R (ct 3); step R back in place (ct &); step L to L (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 2, Fig. II (closing motif) in place adding the flick of R on ct 1,&.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

FIG. VIIb: Double Crossing

- 1 Repeat meas 1, Fig. VIIa adding: step R across L on ct 4.
- 2 Step L back in place (ct 1); step R to R (ct &); step L across R (ct 2); step R back in place (ct &); step L to L (ct 3); step R across L (ct &); step L back in place (ct 4); step R to R (ct &).
- 3 step L across R (ct 1); step R back in place (ct &); step L to L (ct 2); step R across L (ct &), step L back in place (ct 3); step R to R (ct &); close L to R (accented)(ct 4).
- 4 Repeat meas 2, Fig. IIa (closing motif with flick).

REPEAT Fig.VIIa, VIIb up to meas 4 of VIIb

- 4 Add this ending on second repeat. In a "can can" like fashion with the R knee bent, kick the R leg 4 times (cts 1,2,3,4.), starting to the L of the L leg and moving slightly R with each additional kick. 

FINALE

- Repeat Fig. V moving fwd 4 meas and back 3 meas, adding at the end (meas 4).
4 Leap onto both heels with heels together and toes turned out (ct 1); fall onto both ft, knees slightly bent (ct 2). Repeat cts 1-2 of meas 4 above.

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Introduction, meas 2-8, line 2, change whitty to witty
Meas 2-8, lines 4-7 is what the leader says, after each line the "mob" says - "to ta sa" or "op sa sa."
Fig I, meas 1, Cue words - WE like ice cold beer
2, " " Get it here, get it here
90 Fig IV, meas 1, " " Don't forget me, oh please
Meas 2, add to end of ct 1: - reverse bicycle
Fig. V, line 2, add to end of ct &: and face diag L
Line 4, add to end ct &, face ctr; change in-place to fwd;
then add, face slightly R (ct 4).
Fig VIIb, meas 1, change ct 4 to &
91 Add to end of first paragraph: Shout HEY on ea ct.