

CIGANYTANC

(Szatmar County, Hungary)

Ciganytanc, or Gypsy Dance, is danced solo or with couples scattered randomly around the dance area. Traditionally the dance is never danced in a formation. Men's solos are intended to show virtuosity. Women often play games while attempting to circle partner. The large numbers of variations and improvisations are mostly different for men and women. The dance described here was choreographed by Steve Kotansky for recreational dancing.

MUSIC: Available on workshop tape

FORMATION: For recreational dancing this dance was taught with individuals facing center in a circle, but it may be danced in couples with partners facing, and partners may change. Arms are forward about chest level, moving freely. Fingers snap.

STEPS: "Bounce". Lifting on ball of supporting ft, raise heel ahead of the beat and lower on the beat. The feeling is lively and bouncy, not rigid. The foot touching forward may twist with toe out, heel in; hips may twist slightly to face touching foot.

METER: PATTERN

Meas Count

Introduction (at the discretion of dancers)

PIHENÖ (Rest)

1 1 Facing ctr, touch R toe (or heel) fwd
2 step on R beside L
3 touch L toe (or heel) fwd
4 step on L beside R.

2-4 all Repeat measure 1, three more times (total of eight touch-steps).

SÉTALO (Walk)

1 1 Facing ctr, touch R toe (or heel) fwd
2 turning to face slightly R of ctr, step on R in LOD
3 step on L across in front of R
4 turning to face ctr, step on R to R.

2 all Repeat measure 1, with opposite footwork.

3-4 all Repeat measures 1-2.

HEEL-TWISTS

1 1 With wt on L ft, and ball of R ft touching slightly fwd, bounce on L and twist both heels to L
& bounce on L and twist both heels to R
2 step on R beside L
3,&,4 repeat cts 1, &, 2 with opp ftwk and direction.

2-4 all Repeat measure 1 three more times.

FORWARD AND BACK WITH CLICK AND TWISTS

- 1 1&2 Facing ctr, move fwd with accented steps R, L, R
3 click L ft to R ft
4 shifting wt to L ft, twist heels to L.
- 2 1 Step bkwd on R, twisting L heel to R
2 step bkwd on L, twisting R heel to L
3,4 repeat cts 1 and 2.
- 3-4 all Repeat measures 1-2 three times (total of four times).

STEP-TAP

- 1,& Step on R in place; tap L heel next to R, no wt
2,& step on L in place; tap R heel next to L, no wt
3,& step on R heel to R; step on L behind R
4,& step on R to R; tap L heel next to R, no wt.
- 2 all Repeat measure 1 with opposite footwork and direction.
- 3-4 all Repeat measures 1-2. NOTE: can also be used to circle slowly CW (R) once.

CIRCLING (for women and men)

- 1 1,& Step on R heel to R; step on L behind R
2,& step on R to R; tap L heel beside R ft, no wt
3,& step on L heel to L; step on R behind L
4,& step on L to L; tap R heel beside L ft, no wt. NOTE: Steps are small, as dancer turns CW smoothly, approximately 1/8 turn per measure.
- 2-4 all Repeat measure 1 three more times, completing one full CW turn.

OPTIONAL SLAPPING PATTERN FOR MEN

(replaces CIRCLING as desired after first complete sequence)

- 1 1,& Fall onto R; click L ft to R
2,& fall onto L; click R ft to L
3,& jump onto both ft slightly apart; click heels together in air
4,& separate ft in air and land on both ft together.
- 2 1 Jump onto both ft, R crossed in front of L
2-4 on balls of both ft, turn once CCW.
- 3 1,& Step on L in place; moving twd ctr, bend fwd to slap R calf with L hand
ah step on ball of R ft in place
2,& step on L next to R; slap R calf with R hand
3-4 repeat cts 1-2 with opp ftwk and slaps.
- 4 1, & Step on L in place; slap R calf with R hand
2,& step on R next to L; slap L calf with L hand
3,& step on L next to R; straightening up, slap L thigh with L hand
4 slap R calf with a hand.

SEQUENCE: Dance Pattern as written until the music ends.