

## Csingerálás

(Szászcsavás – Ceuas, Transylvania, Romania)

There is a practice among Hungarian folk dancers to study dances from original recordings of villagers dancing. Partly due to the popularity of the world-renowned Szászcsavás Band, there are many recordings of gypsy dancing from that village. However, for this dance, we chose to teach steps exclusively from a recording that can be found on YouTube. We hope you refer back to that recording to learn and perfect this dance. The recording is of the musicians of the Szászcsavás Band dancing with their wives. In general, we are teaching the dance as done by Levente Mezei and his wife, found starting at 1 minute 50 seconds into the recording.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0swGFtHVvE&feature=related>

Please note that this physically and mentally challenging dance will be taught at an advanced level.

Pronunciation: TCHIHN-geh-rah-lahsh

Music: 4/4 meter *Dénes Dreisziger and Gissella Santayana*  
*Hungarian and Gypsy Dances from Transylvania* CD, Band 4

Formation: Couples in a cluster near the musicians. A few couples ready to start dancing.

Steps & Styling: A very fast-paced and dynamic dance involving small precise movements. There is a bouncy movement that is characteristic of this dance; there is a slight down movement with soft knees. This movement is found throughout the dance originating from the core and allowing the limbs to be free to execute the rapid movements. All steps are executed on the balls of the feet. During the dance M and W are often side by side and less often facing each other.

While dancing, dancers snap fingers, alternating R and L hands to keep the rhythm.

Women: Upper arms are 90° to body, horizontal, with elbows slightly out. Alternatively, one or both hands may hold an apron or skirt. Another alternative is for the R hand to hold the skirt, with the L hand on the waist.

Men: Hands are at chest level, with elbows slightly out. Often the R hand is held slightly higher than L. Snap fingers alternately to rhythm (cts 1, &, 2, &, etc.)

Note: This dance is improvised. The sequences presented are an example only.

Meas 2/4 meter

Pattern

### **FIGURES FOR WOMEN**

Note: All figures described below can be executed with the opp ftwk and direction. The final count of each pattern will be with or without wt depending on the direction of the following pattern.

#### Woman I

- 1 Step on ball of R slightly fwd, keeping L on ground (ct 1); transfer wt to L (ct &); step fwd R (ct 2).

## Csingerálás — continued

(NT)\* Woman II

- 1 Touch R near L while bouncing on L (ct 1); bounce on L separating heels, R slightly lifted (ct &); step R near L (ct 2).

Woman III

- 1 Slide R back, keeping torso in place, L slightly lifted (ct 1); step L across in front of R (ct &); step R near L, wt evenly on both ft (ct 2).

(NT)\* Woman IV

- 1 Lift L near R while bouncing on R turning whole body slightly CW (ct 1); step L slightly bkwd (ct &); step R near L (ct 2).

Woman V

- 1 Slide R back keeping torso in place, L slightly lifted (ct 1); step L across in front of R, bringing ball of R near L heel without wt (ct 2).
- 2 Three steps R-L-R (cts 1, &, 2).

Woman VI

- 1 Small jump onto R almost in place, leg in slight turnout, L knee bent at 45°, slide L toe to the R crossing behind R (ct 1). Leap onto L near R (ct 2).
- 2 Three steps R-L-R (cts 1, &, 2).

**FIGURES FOR MEN**

*Note: All figures described below can be executed with the opp ftwk and direction.*

(NT)\* Man I

Step on R heel slightly fwd (ct 1); step L slightly behind R (ct &); step R near L (ct 2).

(NT)\* Man II

- 1 Step R in front of L turning body very slightly CCW, L knee bent at 90° and near R calf (ct 1); step L behind R (ct &); step R near L kicking L ft slightly fwd (ct 2).

Man III

- 1 Small jump onto L kicking R heel in front of L, near floor, with R leg in slight turnout (ct 1); leap onto R, lifting L heel sharply up in back (ct 2).
- 2 Jump on R while kicking L near R (ct 1); leap onto L near R (ct &); leap onto R near L (ct 2); lift L in front of R, knee bent at 90° (ct &).

Note: Variation – steps may move sideways on meas 2, cts 1, &

## Csingerálás — continued

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\* NT = Not Taught

Man IV

- 1 Click heels in air at 45° to the R, knees bent, R leg extended to side and upward, legs staying parallel (ct 1); land L (ct &); step R (ct 2) and extend L out to 45°.

(NT)\* Man V

- 1 Jump on L, slapping R heel with R hand (ct 1); leap onto R (ct &); leap onto L, lifting R slightly to R, knee bent at 45° (ct 2).

Man VI

- 1 Jump on L, slapping inside R lower leg with R hand, leg parallel to floor (ct 1); leap onto R, slap L heel with R hand behind body (ct 2).
- 2 Bring L leg fwd, leg almost parallel to floor (ct 1); leap onto L, slapping inside R lower leg with R hand, leg parallel to floor (ct 2).

Man VII

- 1 Slide bkwd on both ft (ct 1); clap hands (ct &); slide bkwd on both ft (ct 2); clap hands (ct&).
- 2 Slide bkwd on both ft (ct 1); clap hands (ct &); clap hands (ct 2).

Man VIII

- 1 Lift R fwd, knee slightly bent and slap inside R lower leg with R hand while simultaneously slapping L thigh with L hand (ct 1); step fwd R (ct &); step L next to R (ct 2); lift R fwd, knee slightly bent, and slap inside R lower leg with R hand while simultaneously slapping L thigh with L hand (ct&).
- 2 Step R near L (ct 1); step L near R (ct &); lift R fwd, knee slightly bent, and slapping inside R lower leg with R hand while simultaneously slapping L thigh with L hand (ct 2).

Note: This pattern can be executed while rotating 45° to the R or L.

(NT)\* Man IX

- 1 Jump on both ft (ct 1); clap hands (ct &); slap inside L lower leg with L hand, leg parallel to the floor, slightly diag to L (ct 2); clap hands (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.

Note: To end this pattern, repeat meas 1. Meas 2: Jump on both ft (ct 1); clap hands (ct &), clap hands (ct 2).

Man X

- 1 Jump slightly fwd on both ft to stomp with R slightly in front of L (ct 1); hold (ct 2); jump slightly fwd on both feet to stomp, with R slightly in front of L (ct &)
- 2 Hold (ct 1); jump slightly fwd on both ft to stomp with R slightly in front of L (ct 2).

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\* NT = Not Taught

**INTERMEDIATE SEQUENCES**

Total Meas.	<u>M</u>	<u>W</u>
4	Introduction. No Action.	Introduction. No Action.
8	Fig III 8 times, alternating R and L.	Fig III twice with R, twice with L. Repeat sequence 3 more times.
4	Fig IV 8 times, alternating R and L.	Fig V 4 times, alternating R and L.
8	Fig VI, Fig VII Fig VIII, Fig VII Fig VIII, Fig VII Fig VIII, Fig X.	Fig VI 8 times, alternating R and L.

**ADVANCED SEQUENCES**

	<u>M</u>	<u>W</u>
4	Introduction. No Action.	Introduction. No Action.
4	Fig I 8 times, alternating L and R.	Fig I 8 times, alternating R and L.
4	Fig II 8 times, alternating L and R.	Fig II 8 times, alternating R and L.
12	Fig III 12 times, alternating L and R.	Fig III twice with R and twice with L, then Fig IV with L. Repeat that sequence a total of six times.
4	Fig IV 8 times, alternating L and R.	Fig V 4 times, alternating R and L.
8	Fig VI, Fig VII, Fig VIII, Fig VI.	Fig VI 8 times, alternating R and L.
4	Fig IX 8 times. Then Fig III, Fig VII, Fig VIII, Fig X.	Fig III twice with R, Fig III once with L, then Fig IV with L. Repeat entire sequence twice.
4	Fig I 8 times.	Fig I 8 times.

Presented by Dénes Dreisziger and Gissella Santayana