

HORA MARE MOLDOVENEASCĂ
Moldavia, Romania

Translation: the big Moldavian hora (dance)

Pronunciation: HOE-rah MAH-reh mole-doh-veh-neh-AHS-cuh

Record: "Roemeense Volksdansen Deel 3," Ansamblul folcloric
Junii Sibiului Romania, Nevofoon 15012, Side 2, Band 7

Music: 4/4 (slow) - No introduction.

Formation: Closed circle of cpls, W on M L side, hands joined
in "W" pos, all facing slightly R of ctr.

Meas

Pattern

PART I. BIG CIRCLE FIGURE

- 1 Moving diag fwd R into the circle, touch ball of L ft slightly fwd, L knee bent slightly (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct 2); touch ball of R ft slightly fwd, R knee bent slightly (ct 3); step on R fwd and across in front of L with plié, turning to face L of ctr (ct 4).
- 2 Walk out from ctr and diag bkwd to the R with 4 steps beg on L ft (cts 1, 2, 3, 4). On the last step turn to face R of ctr.
- 3-8 Repeat action of meas 1-2 three times; on the very last ct, all face ctr and W touch R (no wt) beside L, instead of stepping on R.
The floor pattern of meas 1-2 is a wedge-shaped figure.

PART II. COUPLE FIGURE

- 1 W release R handhold (retain hold with ptr). M, dancing more or less in place, step slightly bkwd with L-R-L (cts 1, &, 2) and slightly fwd with R-L-R (cts 3, &, 4) while leading W fwd twd ctr and around in wide CW arc to face him. W step twd ctr and turn slowly 180° to the R to face ptr with 2 two-steps beg on R ft (cts 1, &, 2; 3, &, 4).
- 2 Assuming closed social dance pos and moving twd ctr of circle, W with backs to ctr and going bkwd, dance 4 smooth gliding steps beg M L - W R (cts 1, 2, 3, 4) while extended arms move up, down, up, down in rhythm and bodies sway sdwd (bending slightly from waist) away from the ft that is stepping; i.e., if stepping onto L, sway to the R.
- 3 Turning $\frac{1}{2}$ CW so that M L side and W R side are twd ctr and turning slightly to face ctr but retaining handhold, M step fwd on L, W step fwd on R in plié twd ctr as the

continued...

HORA MARE MOLDOVENEASCA (continued)

- extended arms and the torsos are tilted down and twd ctr (ct 1). Coming upright, dance three steps approximately in place beg on M R - W L while turning as a cpl 180° CCW (cts 2, 3, 4).
- 4 In "semi-closed" dance pos (same as closed pos except turn slightly to face out) move fwd out of circle in this meas. M take 6 steps fwd always leading with L heel and closing R to L (cts 1, &, 2, &, 3, &); then step slightly fwd on L and hold (ct 4). W take 8 steps fwd always leading with R heel and closing L to R (cts 1, &, 2, &, 3, &, 4, &).
- 5-6 Change to open pos holding inside hands (M R - W L hand). All dance 4 two-steps beg R (cts 1, &, 2; 3, &, 4; 1, &, 2; 3, &, 4) while M leads W in a fairly wide 3/4 circle CCW around him and then twd ctr, ending with W back to ctr, facing ptr. M dances more or less in place while making approximately a 1/2 turn CW under raised joined hands to end facing ctr, thus: M dances the first two-step in place (facing out), the second slightly diag fwd L, the third slightly to his R and turning 1/2 CW, and the fourth completing CW turn and fwd into ctr twd ptr. Assume shoulder-shoulder blade pos.
- 7 Both starting on R ft and turning in place CCW as a cpl, dance 7 steps sdwd to the R, always stepping sdwd on R and closing L to R (cts 1, &, 2, &, 3, &, 4).
- 8 Both starting on L ft and turning in place CW as a cpl, dance 8 steps sdwd to the L, always stepping sdwd on L and closing R to L (cts 1, &, 2, &, 3, &, 4, &). On the last two steps, W turn about 1/2 to own R to end on R side of orig ptr. All end facing ctr, with wt on R. Rejoin hands in big circle.
- Repeat entire dance from beg with new ptr.

--presented by Sunni Bloland