

Joc de doi (Ce-ai lăsat doamne la mine)

Banat, Romania



Traditional costumes

Located in the southwest corner of Romania, Banat is a distinct entity in terms of its folklore. The style there is characterized by steps with knees flexed and on the balls of the feet; the effect is one of light, flowing movement.

Danced to a song sung by Nicoleta Voica, *Joc de doi* allows the couple to familiarize themselves with the typical movements of this region. The basic step is the same throughout the dance, which means the dancers are able to concentrate on the patterns the woman does around her partner. Her steps and turns should be supple and harmonious, as delicate as lacework, as she weaves in and out—otherwise you could certainly exclaim, as Nicoleta Voica does, “*Ce-ai lăsat doamne la mine!*” (What on earth have you landed me with!)

Pronunciation: zhok deh doy (TCHEH-aye luh-SAHT DOHAH-mneh lah MEE-neh)

CD: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, Romanian Realm* Vol. 2, Band 7.
2/4 meter

Formation: Circle of cpls (W at right of M), facing LOD.

Styling: Couple dances from Banat are light-footed and graceful. Movements should be fluid and springy. Both partners are active, the man courteously helping the woman execute her turns. The arms are outstretched without being stiff or heavy. The couple circles the floor in perfect harmony.

Steps: Basic step:

Meas 1: Step fwd on R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct &); step fwd on R (ct 2).
(cts 1&2 = running Two-step)

Meas 2: Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.

Meas 3: Large step fwd on R with a deep plié (ct 1); small leap fwd on L (ct 2).

Meas 4: Repeat meas 1.

Meas 5-8: Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk.

This basic step is used in all the figures of this dance, whether the dancer is moving forward, backward, sideways or turning—and always on the balls of the feet.

Joc de doi—continued

MeasPattern

8 meas

INTRODUCTION

Cpls in circle facing LOD, W to right of M R hand in R hand, arms held straight in front, at level of W's shoulders. W's left arm around partner's shoulders

FIGURE I

1-6 Promenade with 3 Basic steps, moving in LOD in position 1 (illustration A).

7-8 W moves around behind her partner, M moves slightly to R (illustration B).

**A****B**FIGURE II

1-6 Promenade with 3 Basic steps, moving in LOD in position 2 (illustration C).

7-8 W moves around in front of M and turning CW M moves slightly to L (illustration D)

**C****D**FIGURE III

1-6 Promenade with 3 Basic steps, moving in LOD in position 3 (illustration E).

7-8 W moves around in front of M (no turn), to finish to L of M, M moves slightly to R (illustration F)

**E****F**

FIGURE IV

- 1-6 Promenade with 3 Basic steps, moving in LOD in position 4 (illustration G).
- 7-8 W turning (CW) around M to finish to left of M (illustration H).

**G****H**FIGURE V

- 1-6 Promenade with 3 Basic steps, moving in LOD in position 5 (illustration I).
- 7-8* W and M turn face to face; M turns 1/4 (CCW) raising his R arm W turns 1 1/4 (CW) raising her R arm (illustration J).
- *Meas 8: W modifies basic step by walking 2 steps (L, R). Cpl finishing face to face L hands crossed over R hands, arms down (almost) slightly in front of both ptrs (illustration K).

**I****J**FIGURE VI

(M facing center, W backing center. W starts basic step with L ft, M with R ft.)

- 1 With Basic step (meas 1), slightly swing arms to LOD (W L, M R).
- 2 With basic step (meas. 2), swing arms to RLOD (W R, M L).
- 3-4 M and W raise arms up, W turns one full turn (CCW), M in place.
- 5-6 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and arms direction .
- 7-8* M and W raise arms up, W turns 1 3/4 (CW) and moves around M, M turns 1/4 (CCW). Both ptrs finish in position 1, facing RLOD.
- *Meas 8: W modifies Basic step by walking 2 steps (R, L).

**K**

Repeat the dance from beginning facing and moving in RLOD

Sequence: Fig 1 to Fig 6 (LOD); Fig 1 to Fig 6 (RLOD); Fig 1 to Fig 6 (LOD); Fig 1 to Fig 6 (RLOD).

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