Serény Magyaros

(Moldvai Csángó Moldavia, Rumania)

The Hungarian-speaking Moldvai Csángós live on the eastern slopes of the Carpathian Mountains in Rumania. Their dance and folk culture, like that of the Gyimesi Csángós, contains an archaic layer of Hungarian Dance culture (especially in the older couple dances i.e. Lapos Magyaros and Serény Magyaros) as well as a family of dances closely related to Rumanian and other Balkan dances. The Serény Magyaros (lit "fast Hungarian") generally follows the Lapos Magyaros in the dance cycle. I learned this dance from Ferenc Sára in Budapest, Hungary. "Feri" is a recognized specialist in the dances and related folk culture of the Csángós peoples. He toured North America in the Fall of 1990.

PRONUNCIATION: SHARE-ain MAHJ-ah-rosh

MUSIC: cassette: Garlic Press Productions GPP-004

FORMATION: Couples freely about the dance space. Closed shldr-waist pos (man holds woman's

waist tightly).

METER: 2/2 PATTERN

Meas

2-4

SINGLE CSÁRDÁS.

- M: Step on R ft to R or slightly fwd with a heavy accent and a sharp knee flex (ct 1); close L ft sharply to R ft and straighten knees (there is actually a bounce here) (ct &); step on L ft to L or slightly fwd with a heavy accent and a sharp knee flex (ct 2); close R ft sharply to L ft and straighten knees (ct &).
 - W: Dance action of man's ftwk with opp ftwk and direction and less vigor. Repeat action of meas 1 three times.

DOUBLE CSÁRDÁS.

- M: Step on R ft to R with heavy accent and a sharp knee flex (ct 1); close L ft to R ft with wt and straighten knees (ct &); step on R ft to R with a heavy accent and a sharp knee flex (ct 2); close L ft to R ft (no wt) and straighten knees (ct &).
 - W: Dance action of man's step with opp ftwk and direction. Follow man's strong lead. Reverse ftwk of meas 1 of Double Csárdás.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 of Double Csárdás.

LONG COUPLE TURN.

- M: Jump sharply by flexing knees onto both ft about shldr-width apart, and twist W's hips to L (push R hand and pull L hand) (ct 1); straighten knees sharply and bring ft somewhat together, twist W's hips back to place or slightly to R (ct &); repeat ct 1 of Long Couple Turn (ct 2); straighten knees and come up with wt on L ft (ct &).
 - W: Same as M but with less vigor and allow M to lead. During the twist, ft can also twist in direction of twist

- 2 M&W: Turning to face CW, W on M's R (pos: M places R hand under W's armpit on her L shldr-blade; his L hand is placed on her R upper arm. W places her R hand on M's L upper arm; her R arm is straight across his chest and this is the support; her L hand rests on M's R upper arm.). Run on R ft fwd (ct 1); run on L ft fwd (ct &); run on R ft fwd (ct 2); run on L ft fwd (ct &). Note: During this step M's inner ft acts as pivot point. W will be dancing around M.
- Repeat meas 2 of Long Couple Turn.
- 4 Repeat cts 1,&,2 of meas 2 of Long Couple Turn (cts 1,&,2); hop on R ft and turn to face ptr.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 of Long Couple Turn but with opp pos, ftwk and direction.

SHORT COUPLE TURN.

- Jump down onto both ft as in ct 1 of Long Couple Turn and twist W (ct 1); chug and come up on L ft (ct &); step on R ft across and in front of Lft (ct 2); hop on R ft (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 of Short Couple Turn but with opp ftwk and direction.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 of Short Couple Turn.

SEQUENCE:

Single Csárdás (8) Double Csárdás (4)

Long Couple Turn (L,R) + First 2 jumps of Long Couple Turn

Single Csárdás (6)
Double Csárdás (4)
Long Couple Turn (L,R)
Short Couple Turn (L,R,L,R)
Long Couple Turn (L,R)
Repeat from the beginning