

Fetele din Crihalma

(Romania)

Fetele din Crihalma (FEH-teh-lay deen cree-HAHL-mah) comes from the south of Ardeal, Crihalma village, Brasov zone. Originally a couple dance, it is now a girl's dance. Alexandru David learned the dance from Ion Petcu, who was formerly a soloist with the Romanian Rhapsody Ensemble and is now chairman of folk dance teaching at the Popular School of Arts in Bucharest. The dance was presented by Mihai David at the 1982 University of the Pacific Dance Camp.

RECORD: Gypsy Camp Vol. IV Side B/3 "Crihalma" 2/4 meter

FORMATION: Circle, or line, of W (M may also dance) facing LOD. Arms are free.
During Fig I and III, arms are low and swing across body. During Fig II, IV, V, VI, arms are held out to sides and move freely.

STEPS: Click-close: Close free ft with a click to ft with wt. No change of wt.

Jump-click: Jump up in air and click ft together.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. TRAVEL IN LOD; ARMS DOWN, SWING ACROSS BODY

1 Step fwd on L (ct 1); click-close R to L twisting slightly L on L (ct 2); small step fwd on R (ct &).

2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.

4 Click-close L to R twisting to R on R (ct 1); step L (ct &); click-close R to L twisting to L on L (ct 2); step R (ct &).

5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three times, but replace final step R with jump on both ft facing ctr (ct 2&).

II. GRAPEVINE, HEEL TOUCHES AND JUMPS; ARMS MOVE FREELY

1 Step R behind L (ct 1); step L to L side (ct &); step R across in front of L (ct 2); step L to L side (ct &).

2 Hop L throughout meas. Touch R heel out to R side, knee turned out (ct 1); touch R toe in same place, knee turned in (ct &); touch R heel again (ct 2); step R beside L (ct &).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.

5 Step R behind L (ct 1); jump with ft apart (ct &); jump with ft together (ct 2); step R to R (ct &).

6 Step L behind R (ct 1); jump with ft apart (ct &); jump with ft together (ct 2); jump with ft apart (ct &).

7 Jump-click (ct 1); land with ft apart (ct &); jump-click (ct 2); land on L (ct &).

8 Stamp R ft fwd, no wt (ct 1); step R,L in place (cts 2,&).

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 but instead of stepping R,L on meas 16, cts 2,&, transfer wt fwd onto R ft.

III. INTO CENTER; ARMS DOWN, SWING ACROSS BODY

- 1 Moving twd ctr, leap onto L, R leg bent behind L, knee out to R (ct 1); twist body to L, pivoting on ball of L ft (ct 2); twist body to ctr and extend R ft fwd, knee straight (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3-6 Repeat meas 1-2 twice, but omit last extension and instead jump with ft together on last ct &.
- 7 Hold (ct 1); step bkwd R,L,R (cts &,2,&).
- 8 Jump with ft apart (ct 1); jump-click (ct &); land with ft together (ct 2); fall on R (ct &).
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

IV. BRUSH STEPS; ARMS MOVE FREELY

- 1 Step on L, turning to face L of ctr (ct 1); with R ft extended fwd, brush bkwd lightly (ct &); step R to R (ct 2); step on L behind R (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction, facing R of ctr on ct 1.
- 3-6 Repeat meas 1-2 twice, but instead of stepping R behind L (meas 6, ct &), stamp R beside L (no wt).
- 7-8 Repeat Fig III, meas 7-8.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8, but instead of falling on R (meas 16, ct &), jump with ft apart facing R of ctr.

V. JUMPS; ARMS MOVE FREELY

- 1 Jump-click, turning to L of ctr (ct 1); land on L, bringing R around in front (ct &); step on R heel in front of L (ct 2); jump with ft apart.
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction but land with ft together (ct 2&).
- 3-4 In S Q S Q S rhythm, jump to face L of ctr, then a little to R on each succeeding jump. On the last jump, land with ft apart facing R of ctr.
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three times, but instead of last jump, land on L facing ctr.

VI. GRAPEVINE; ARMS MOVE FREELY

- 1 Travelling sdwd L, step on R heel in front of L (ct 1); step L to L (ct &); step R behind L (ct 2); step L to L (ct &).
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.
- 4 Hop slightly on L and touch R heel in front of L (ct 1); jump with ft apart (ct &); jump with ft together (ct 2); fall on R (ct &).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

After the break in music, dance repeats from Fig I with no introductory music.