

Roata feciorilor

From Oaş, Romania

Presented by Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu

In the region of Oaş (northwest Romania), it is traditional for the men to do a particular dance called *Roata feciorilor* (“the young boys’ wheel”). The same form of dance is found in neighbouring Maramureş with different names, for example, *Bătrânescu*, *Bărbătescu* or *Joc în sus din Lăpuş*.

Two interesting features of this dance are the specific shouts, called *ţâpurituri*, and whistles that signal the change of sequences. The whistling is singularly charming, especially when it is syncopated.

The dance doesn’t always follow the music. The experts say this is a very old dance and very different from the rest of the Romanian repertoire.

The instruments typical of this region are the *cetera* (violin), *zongora* (guitar), and *tobă cu cinel* (drum with cymbals).

Formation: Men’s circle

Position: facing center, free hands

Pronunciation: ROHAH-tah feh-TCHEE-OH-ree-lohr

Music: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian Realm Vol. 8*, Band 11

Meter: 4/4

Description of *Roata feciorilor*

Meas. Count

Introduction

1-11

No action

Figure 1

(Rhythm: slow-quick-slow-quick-slow)

1-11

1-44

Clap hands together (chest level) while both feet together, knees bouncing on the same rhythm (S-Q-S-Q-S)

Figure 2 *Tropotul mare*

(Moving and facing LOD)

(Rhythm: quick-quick-quick-quick-quick-slow)

1

1

Small step fwd on R

&

Stomp (with wt) on L near R

2

Step on R in place

&

Very small step fwd on L

3

Stamp (without wt) on R slightly in front

&

Very small step fwd on R

4& Very small step fwd on L

2-6 Repeat measure **1**, five more times (6 in total)

Meter: 4/4 Description of *Roata feciorilor* (continued)

Meas. Count **Figure 3** *Țuraiul*
(Rhythm: slow-quick-quick-quick-quick-slow)

1 1& Stamp (without wt) with noise on R twd center and body facing center

2 Lift on L heel while body turning slightly to the right

& Step diag. bkwd to the right on R

3 Step on L near R

& Small step swd on R

4& Step on L near R

2-6 Repeat measure **1**, five more times (6 in total)

Figure 3' (Final of the dance)

1-5 Repeat measures **1-5** of **figure 3**

6 1& Stamp on R in front while raising up R arm.

Final pattern:

Introduction +
(F1 + F2 + F3) x 4 +
F1 + F2 + F3'.

Described and presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, ©2014

