

TORA

Romania

Dance notes submitted by Dorothy Daw.

Tora is an Aromân dance from Cogealac, Romania. The Aromân people live south of the Danube river, in Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, and Romania. They speak a dialect of the Romanian language, something between Italian and Romanian. The Aromân people came from the ancient Roman (Italian-Latin) Empire.

This dance was presented by Theodor Vasilescu during the summer of 1995 at southern California club workshops and at the Mendocino Folk Dance Camp.

TRANSLATION: Now

PRONUNCIATION: TOH-rah

CASSETTE: Theodor Vasilescu. Folklore '95, side A/12

FORMATION: Either open or closed circle, joined in "V" pos.

STEPS: Pas-de-basque (PDB) R: Leap R on R (R ft does small 1/2 circle moving fwd then sdwd) (ct 1); step L across R (ct &); step R in back to place (ct 2).

Stamps: -All stamps are on the full ft and slightly fwd by toe of weighted ft.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 12 meas (Instrumental)

FIG. A: (Instrumental)

- 1 Facing ctr and dancing in place - PDB-R:
- 2 Step-hop on L to L as R swings across L leg (cts 1-2).
- 3 Step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2).
- 4 Repeat meas 3. (R to R, L behind)
- Note: Meas 3-4 are light running steps.
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4. (4 times in all)

FIG. B: (Vocal)

- 1 Facing ctr - step R to R (ct 1); stamp L in place (ct 2).
- 2 Stamp L again (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 3 Step-hop on L to L as R swings across L leg (cts 1-2).
- 4 Step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2).
- Note: These are light running steps.
- 5-12 Repeat meas 1-4. (3 times in all)
- 13 Step R to R (ct 1); stamp L in place (ct 2).
- 14 Stamp L again (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 15 Moving sdwd L - step L to L (ct 1); step R beside L (ct 2).
- 16 Step L to L (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

FIG C: (Vocal)

SONG:

Ai s_-i_em azi în hoar_
Feate _i ficiori ca unoar_

Aide tora tot m_i tot pe loc
Aide_i armâni azi _tu_i la joc
C_e nunt_ nunt_ armâneasc_
Tut_ hoara azi _s-o mutreasc_

Ai armâne de ce sta_i
De la mas_ tu_i scula_i

Cîte sta_i m_i _i mutri_i
In cor tora tu_i veni_i

Feate _i ficiori voi ce sta_i
Aide_i tora tu_i juca_i

- 1 Facing and moving diag R twd ctr - step R diag R fwd (ct 1); close L to R (ct 2).
- 2 Step R diag R fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 3 Dancing in place and leaning fwd - hop on R as L lifts bkwd with bent knee - (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 4 Straightening body - hop on R in place as L lifts fwd with bent knee (ct 1); leap L in place (ct 2).
- 5 Stamp R in place (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 6 Step R diag R fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 7 Facing diag R fwd and moving diag L bkwd - steps L diag L bkwd (ct 1); close R to L (ct 2).
- 8 Step L diag L bkwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8. (2 times in all)

FIG. D: (Instrumental)

- 1 Moving sdwd R - step-hop on R to R - turning to face R of ctr (cts 1-2).
- 2 Dancing in place - step L across R (ct 1); step R back to place - turning to face ctr (ct 2).
- 3 Step L beside R (ct 1); step R across L - turning to face L of ctr (ct 2).
- 4 Step-hop on L back to place (cts 1-2).
- 5-12 Repeat meas 1-4. (3 times in all)

SEQUENCE:

The dance is done a total of 4 times. On the 4th time through the dance, do Fig. D, 4 times instead of 3 times (music changes to vocal), then stamp R slightly fwd for ending.

Dance notes by dd (9-95) from Romanotation, observation, and video. Assisted by Gerda Ben-Zeev and Zaga Grgas

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