

Di doi

(Ghimeș, Moldova, Romania)

Traveling across the Carpathian Mountains from west to east, then following the road through the Bicz Gorges, one arrives in *Cengăi* (Csango) territory, that is, the area of Ghimeș-Făget. Some 5000 people make up this ethnic Catholic minority. Their history and identity are somewhat confusing since many contradictory theories about them exist, colored by nationalist ideals. Nonetheless, most specialists seem to agree that these are a people who profess the Catholic religion, live in Moldavia, and originally came from Transylvania.

The Csango have a rich folklore reflecting their make-up: half Hungarian, half Romanian. They speak a Hungarian dialect that even Hungarians find hard to understand. They wear costumes that are almost identical to the Romanian costumes found in the neighboring area. Their dances evoke the simplicity and energy of people who work the land.

Di doi is how the standard Romanian *de doi* (deh doy) is pronounced in some areas of Moldavia. *Di doi*, which means for two, is a dance in two parts. The chorus is done in a closed circle (*Hora*) and the figures are done as a couple dance. The same basic step is used throughout, to the particular rhythm of Quick-Slow-Quick-Slow-Slow. This step is found in two other dances from northern Muntenia (*Breaza* and *Ungurica*).

Pronunciation: dee doy

Music: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, Special Edition, Band 3* or *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, Romanian couple dances, Band 8* 2/4 meter

Formation: Couples in one big closed circle (W to the R of M); all hands joined in W-pos, facing ctr

Steps & Styling: Basic Step: (Quick-Slow-Quick-Slow-Slow)

Meas 1: Lift on L heel (ct 1); step on R (ct &,2).

Meas 2: Step on L (&); step on R (ct 1,&); step on L (ct 2,&).

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. No musical introduction; at the beginning of the dance, the first eight (8) measures of Fig I serve as the introduction.

I. CHORUS

- 1-2 Do 1 Basic step (starting with L) twd ctr. The lower arms are slightly fwd and down, arms softly extended and lower arms parallel with the floor.
- 3-4 Do 1 Basic step bkwd. The lower arms move back in the original position (W-pos.).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.
- 9-12 Do 2 smaller Basic steps twd ctr, with the same arms position as meas 1-2.
- 13-16 Do 2 smaller basic steps bkwd, with the same arms position as meas 3-4.

Di doi—continued

II. HOOK TURNS

- 1-2 Do 1 Basic step. M turns 1/4 turn to R (facing LOD) to be facing his ptr and hooking R elbows with his ptr. W turns 1/4 to L (facing RLOD) to be facing M and hooking R elbows with M.
- 3-14 Do 6 Basic steps fwd, with R elbows hooked and the cpl rotating CW approximately twice. M ends facing ctr, W back to the ctr.
- 15-16 Do 1 Basic step to finish in the original position (hands joined in W-pos facing ctr). With hands free W turns alone 1/2 to R to end facing ctr.

Note: In meas 1-16 there are a total of 8 Basic steps.

III. ÎNVARTITA TURNS

- 1-2 Do 1 Basic step. M turns 1/4 to R (facing LOD) to face ptr, R hand on W's L shldr blade and L hand on W's upper R arm. W turns 1/4 to L (facing RLOD) to face M and puts her R hand on M's L shldr and L hand on M's R upper arm.
- 3-8 Do 1 complete rotation (CW) with 3 Basic steps fwd.
- 9-14 Do 1 complete rotation (CCW) with 3 Basic steps bkwd. M ends facing ctr, W back to ctr.
- 15-16 Do 1 Basic step to finish in the original position (hands joined in W-pos facing ctr) W turns alone 1/2 to R to end ctr.

Note: In meas 1-16 there is a total of 8 Basic steps.

IV. LADY'S TURNS

- 1-2 Do 1 Basic step. M turns 1/4 to R (facing LOD) to face ptr and hold ptr's L hand with his R (M's L hand free). W turns 1/4 L (facing RLOD) to face M and hold M's R with her L (W's R hand free).
- 3-4 W turns 1 full turn (CCW) under M's R arm with 1 Basic step (fwd), M does the Basic step in place.
- 5-8 W turns 1 full turn (CW) under M's R arm with 2 Basic steps (bkwd), M does 2 Basic steps in place.
- 9-12 W turns 1 full turn (CCW) under M's R arm with 2 basic step (fwd), M does 2 Basic steps in place.
- 13-14 W turns 1 full turn (CW) under M's R arm with 1 basic step (bkwd), M does the Basic step in place.
- 15-16 Do 1 Basic step to finish in the original position (hands joined in W-pos facing ctr).

Note: In meas 1-16 there is a total of 8 Basic steps.

Di doi—continued

SEQUENCE: Introduction (no action) (meas 1-8)
Fig I, (meas 9-16), Fig II
Fig I, Fig III
Fig I, Fig IV
Fig I, Fig II
Fig I, Fig III
Fig I, Fig IV

Presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu