

# Hora de Joc de la Budesti

(Romanian, Gypsy)

Source: Daniel Sandu, from the predominantly gypsy village of Budesti located in the historical and isolated Maramures region in north-northwestern Romania.

Pronunciation:

Music: Daniel Sandu CD

Rhythm: 4/4 meter. In the description, “S” (slow) denotes a full beat; “Q” (quick) is a half beat; “q” (very quick) is a quarter of a beat.

Formation: Individuals randomly across available space; dancers can and should interact with others as they choose.

Styling: Loose, exuberant, improvisational with spontaneity and originality. Twisting, shouting, spinning, whistling, snapping fingers, slapping and clapping hands, are appropriate. The patterns for the footwork, especially in figures 1 and 2, are examples of what can be done rather than what should be done. Footwork is improvised, especially in figure 3 where each dancer stamps out a rhythm unique and original to him or herself.

Figures are danced in order, and can be repeated if desired. It’s not essential that everyone do the same figure at the same time.

Figures 1 and 4 are “right-footed,” meaning they start on the right foot; figures 2 and 3 are “left-footed,” starting on the left. Going from figure 1 to figure 2 and from 3 to 4, appropriate “fudges” need to be made. Hence the final step of figure 1 is omitted; the first step of figure 4 is also omitted. This all assumes that you are dancing something remotely similar to what is described below; otherwise it doesn’t matter.

## Meas

## Pattern

5 meas

### INTRODUCTION

#### FIGURE 1

- 1 Walk in any direction (fwd, sideways, back, or turning) R, L, R, LR (cts 1,2,3,4,&) (SSSQQ).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3 Walk in any direction R, LR, L, RL (cts 1,2,&,3,4,&) (SQSQSQ).
- 4 Repeat meas 1.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk.

note: All “QQ” steps in this figure can be replaced by a single touch. On the last time through Fig 1, omit the final step on R to begin Fig 2 with L.

#### FIGURE 2

- 1 Bending at waist and moving fwd, step on L (ct 1); lift R leg and slap R thigh with L hand while simultaneously slapping outside of R boot with R hand (ct &) (QQ); repeat cts 1, &, but with opp ftwk and slaps (cts 2,&) (QQ); repeat cts 1, &, 2, & (cts 3,&,4,&) (QQQQ).

## Hora de Joc de la Budesti—continued

- 2 Step fwd on L in front of and slightly across R (ct 1); raising R, slap outside of R boot with R hand (ct 2); moving diag fwd and L, step on R across L (ct 2); bring L leg up and behind R leg, L knee turned out and L leg extended past R leg, and slap L with R hand (ct &) (QQQQ); step back on L behind R (ct 3); lift R fwd and extended and slap inside of R boot with R hand (ct &); keeping wt on L, swing R in an arc down and back, then out to the side and up (ct 4); slap outside of R boot with R hand (ct &) (QQQQ).
- 3 Moving bkwd (or in any other direction, or spinning), step on R (ct 1); step on L while clapping hands together (ct &); step on R in place (ct 2); stamp L heel without wt while clapping once (ct &) (QQQQ); repeat cts 1, &, 2, & with opp ftwk (cts 3,&,4,&) (QQQQ).
- 4 Repeat meas 3, cts 1, &, 2, & (cts 1,&,2,&) (QQQQ); step on L in place (ct 3); clap (ct &); step on R in place (ct 4); clap (ct &) (QQQQ).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

FIGURE 3

- 1 Stamp with wt, in place or moving: L RL R L (cts 1,&,ah,2,&) (QqqQQ); stamp with wt in place or moving RL R L R (cts 3,ah,&,4,&) (qqQQQ).
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.
- 4 Step on L in place (ct 1); clap hands fwd at face level above R raised thigh (ct &); slap top of R thigh with R hand glancing to the outside (ct ah) (Qqq); slap top of R thigh with L hand glancing to the inside (ct 2); step on R in place (ct &) (QQ); clap hands fwd at face level (ct 3); slap top of raised L thigh with R hand, glancing to the inside (ct ee); slap top of L thigh with L hand glancing to the outside (ct &) (qqQ); close or stamp L next to R without wt (ct 4) (S).
- 5-8 Repeat measures 1-4. On the last time through, take wt on L to begin Fig 4 with R.

FIGURE 4

- 1 Step on R in place while hitting chest with open R hand (ct 1); slap outside of L thigh with L hand (ct &); slap top of raised L thigh with R hand (ct 2); slap side of L thigh with L hand (ct &) (QQQQ); step on L in place while hitting chest with open R hand (ct 3); slap outside of L thigh with L hand (ct &); slap top of raised R thigh with R hand (ct 4); slap side of L thigh with L hand (ct &) (QQQQ).
- 2-6 Repeat meas 1 five more times.
- 7 Stamp with about 50% wt on R across L (ct 1); hop on (or leap onto) L in place (ct &) (QQ); step side and back on R (ct 2); step on L in place (ct &) (QQ); repeat cts 1, &, 2, & (cts 3,&,4,&) (QQQQ).
- 8 Repeat meas 7, cts 1, & (cts 1,&) (QQ); step side and back on R (ct 2); step on L across R with about 50% weight (ct &) (QQ); hop on (or leap onto) R in place (ct 3); step on L to L side (ct &) (QQ); repeat cts 1, & (cts 4,&) (QQ).

Dance description by Gary Diggs  
Presented by Gary Diggs