

INVÎRTITA din LUNA TURDA

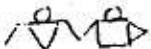
(Transylvania - Romania)

I learned this *învîrtita* from Costea Costantin, a dance researcher at the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore in Bucharest, Romania. He found the dance in the village Luna-Turda in Judet Cluj in 1957. Compared with other more fully developed and complex *învîrtitas*, this one is fairly simple with only three figures.

In most of the *învîrtitas* (from the verb *învîrtare* - to turn) I've seen, the woman is forcefully directed by the man. She may appear passive but in fact she is quite busy being wound up, thrust, twisted, and turned. Her turns are often done as pirouettes on the heels, a skill requiring a fair amount of practice to master. The woman usually carries her free arm down at her side or at her waist. She moves in a controlled way. She is strong but modest in her demeanor. The peasants I've seen dance, though very active, are not flamboyant. Their concentration seems to be more on what each is doing rather than on each other. The man's role is to direct his partner, prepare her for turns. Of the two, the Man is the improviser.







RECORD: NOROC 2708-A 45 rpm

Formation - scattered couples or double circle facing CCW

Position - "v" 

Music - 2/4

FIGURE I (4X)

<u>MAN</u>		
<u>rhythm</u>	<u>measure</u>	<u>count</u>
	1	hold
		+ step in place L
		2+ repeat 1 + with R
	2	1 step L in place
		2 step R in place
		+ step L in place
	3-4	repeat meas 1-2 on opposite foot but move back slightly (note: M must help W around by leading her. His free left hand is held either up or behind his back.)

Continued...

Figure I (continued)

WOMAN














<u>rhythm</u>	<u>measure</u>	<u>count</u>	
	1	1	hold
		+	step forward R (moving in front of man)
		2+	repeat 1+ with L
	2		<u>turn 2 full turns (pirouettes) C.W.</u>
		1	step out on R
		+2	pivot around on both heels
		+	end on R; facing partner
	3	1	hold
		+	step on L toward M, R side
		2+	step on R continuing toward M, R side
	4	1	step L in place (turning toward R to face fwd.)
		2	step R
		+	cont. turn to face forward
		+	step L
			On fourth repetition, during the last measure W remains facing M and change to shoulder-waist position.

FIGURE II (2X)

Formation: W facing M in shoulder-waist position. Steps are described for M; W opposite

MAN





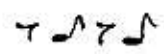
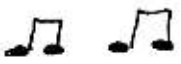
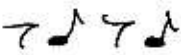

	1		walk forward 2 steps begin L
	2	1	forward on L
		2	back on R
		+	back on L
	3		walk backward 2 steps beg on R

Figure II (continued)

<u>rhythm</u>	<u>measure</u>	<u>count</u>	
	4	1	step back on R
		2	step forward on L
		+	step fwd on R
			On last repetition, M must leave out the last step so as to change footwork for Fig. III.
<u>FIGURE III</u> (1X)			
Formation: Same as Fig. II. Steps are for M & W			
	1		walk 2 steps moving CW around partner - (modified "buzz" turn action) starting crossing with R
	2		4 quick steps continuing around. The 4th is a little bigger than the rest.
	3		Repeat meas. 1
	4	1	step on R in place
		2	cross L over R
		+	step R to R, to start the turn CCW
	5-8		repeat meas 1-4 turning CCW on last count M breaks at step R to switch feet, and he leads the W over to his R to repeat the dance.

Presented by Sunni Bloland
at the 1979 Laguna Folkdance Festival