

Joc de bâț

From the Mureș region (Mid-Eastern part of Transylvania), Romania

Joc de bâț means «dance of the sticks». Originally, this dance was done only by middle aged men. They used a stick to allow for better agility in the execution of their steps. Today, this dance can be found only in a few villages and the dancers do not necessarily use a stick.

Formation: mixed circle

Position: free hands, facing LOD

Pronunciation: ZHOK deh Buh-tuh

Music: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Vol.3*, Band13 or Camp Hess Kramer 2006 CD

Style: The arms should move in a natural movement and in harmony with the footwork. Exactly like walking movement (ex: step on R ft and bring L arm in front) or using a stick.

Meter: 4/4

Description of *Joc de bâț*

Meas. Count

1-2 Introduction (no action)

Figure 1
(facing and moving LOD)

1 1 Touch with L heel (no wt), L leg straight in front of the body. Bent R knee
 2 Step on L in place
 3 Raise R leg, knee bent at 45° and R ft close to L calf
 4 Step on R fwd (slightly)

2 Repeat measure **1**

3 1 Raise L leg, knee bent at 45° and L ft close to R calf
 2 Step on L fwd (slightly)
 3 Raise R leg, knee bent at 45° and R ft close to L calf
 4 Step on R fwd (slightly)

4-6 Repeat measure **1**, three times

7 1 Raise L leg, knee bent at 45° and L ft close to R calf
 2 Step on L fwd
 3 Step on R fwd
 4 Step on L fwd (slightly diag. to the left)

8 1 Click R ft to L, turn body facing center
 2 Clap hands together in front (chin level)
 3 Clap hands together in front (chin level)
 4 No action

Joc de bât (continued)

Meas.	Count	Figure 2 (facing center)
1	1	Lift on L heel and twist outside R low-leg (<i>rond de jambe ext.</i>)
	2	Cross R ft behind L ft
	3	Step swd on L to the left
	4	Close R ft next L ft
2	1	Touch L heel in front (no wt) and bent R knee
	2	Touch L ball swd (no wt)
	3	Close L ft next R ft and lift R ft (slightly)
	4	Step on R and lift L ft (slightly)
3-4	Repeat measures 1-2 with opposite ftwk and direction	
5-6	Repeat measures 1-2	
7	1	Lift on R heel, twist outside L low-leg (<i>rond de jambe ext.</i>)
	2	Step on L behind R ft
	3	Lift on L heel, twist outside R low-leg (<i>rond de jambe ext.</i>)
	4	Step on R behind L ft
8	1	Click L ft to R
	2	Clap hands together in front (chin level)
	3	Clap hands together in front (chin level)
	4	No action
Figure 3		
1	1	Stamp on R in front (toes pointing to the left) (no wt)
	2	Stamp on R in front (toes pointing to the right) (no wt)
	3	Kick with R ft in front
	4	Step on R in place
2	Repeat measure 1 with opposite ftwk and direction	
3	1	Raise R leg, knee bent at 45° and R ft close to L calf
	2	Step on R twd center
	3	Raise L leg, knee bent at 45° and L ft close to L calf
	4	Step on L twd center
4	Repeat measure 1	
5	Repeat measure 2	
6	Repeat measure 1	
7-8	Repeat measures 7-8 of figure 2 (starting lift on R heel)	

Joc de bât (continued)

Final pattern:

F1 + F2 + F3 + F3 +

F1 + F2 + F3 +

F1 + F2 + F3 + F3 +

F1 + F2 + F3.

Notes by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, ©2006

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