

# ȚARINA DE LA ABRUD

Romanian

PRONUNCIATION: tsah-REE-nah deh-lah ah-BROOD

TRANSLATION: Dust or ashes of Abrud

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Mihai David who danced it with his brother, Alexandru, when they were with the *Romanian State Folk Dance Ensemble* during the years 1963 to 1965. Mihai taught it at the 1970 Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

BACKGROUND: The word Țarina means "dust" or "ashes" and is interpreted in the dance by the stamping steps that kick up dust. Abrud is a mining town in the north-western part of Alba County in south-western Transylvania and is located on the Abrud river. The town was founded by the Romans, with the name of "Abruttus" (Terra Abruth) and it was the place where a small fortification was built that was part of the defence system of the gold mines nearby but it was abandoned in the 3rd century. The town's modern name reflects a characteristic vowel shift (from o to a) of the medieval Hungarian language.

MUSIC: The Lark (45rpm) MD-3701, side B, band 2  
Electrocord (7" EP) EPC 443

FORMATION: Closed cir of mixed M and W with hands joined and held at shldr height, elbows bent, in a modified "W" pos with hands somewhat outstretched.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: Fig I has a ballroom elegance.

Fig II has more of a down-to-țarina quality.

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MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

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INTRODUCTION - None.

## I. WALK AND PIVOT

- 1 Moving twd ctr, step R (ct 1); step L (ct 2);
- 2 Step R (ct 1); releasing handhold, but keeping hands up, pivot CCW on R while closing L to R without wt (ct 2);

3-4 Rejoin handhold with neighbors and repeat action of meas 1-2 twd outside of cir with opp ftwk and turning CW on ct 2.

5-16 Repeat action of meas 1-4 three more times.

## II. STAMPS

1 Step R in place (ct 1); stamp L without wt (ct &); step L in place (ct 2); stamp L without wt (ct &);

2 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &); step R swd (ct 2); step L across in back of R (ct &);

3-4 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-2;

5-6 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1 only, two more times;

7 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 2;

8 Step R swd (ct 1); stamp L next to R without wt (ct &); stamp L next to R without wt (ct 2); pause (ct &).

9-16 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-8, to L with opp fwk.

Repeat entire dance from beg.