

Ca La Ușa Corțului

a Romanian Gypsy dance

Ca la ușa corțului, which means "as in the tent opening," that is to say, a glimpse into a Gypsy camp, could also be called "Țiganeasca," which means, quite simply "Gypsy Dance."

MUSIC: "Ca la ușa corțului"

FORMATION: Solo, spread freely about the room.

HANDS: Hands move freely in front of the body, fingers snapping if desired, shoulders shaking occasionally.

STYLE: All gypsy dances should look improvisational.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas

I. FIRST FIGURE

- 1 Step R heel to the R (1), step on L crossing behind R (&), step on R ft to R (2), stamp L heel near R (&).
- 2 Repeat meas 1, opp dir and ftwk.
- 3 Step on R heel to the R (1), step on L crossing behind R (2).
- 4 Repeat meas 1.
- 5 "Double stamp L:" turning lower body slightly L, step on L ft (1), scuff R heel near L (&), lift and drop L heel while R leg makes a "reverse bicycle" movement (2), stamp R heel near L (&).
- 6 "Double stamp R:" repeat meas 5, opp dir and ftwk.
- 7 "Double stamp L:" repeat meas 5.
- 8 Repeat meas 3.

II. SECOND FIGURE

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2, first figure.
- 3 Step on R heel to the R (1), step on L ft crossed behind R (&), step on R heel to the R (2), step on L ft crossed behind R (&).
- 4 Step on R heel to the R (1), step on L ft crossed behind R (&), step on R ft to the R, bending knee slightly and lifting L leg in front (2).
- 5 Hop on R ft (1), stomp on L ft (&), pause (2), stomp on R ft(&).
- 6 Pause (1), stamp L ft near R (&), stomp on L ft (2). (Rhythm of meas 5-6 is "short-long-long-short-long.")
- 7 Hop on L ft (1), stomp on R ft (&), pause (2), stamp L heel near R (&).
- 8 Stomp on L (1), stomp on R (&), stomp on L (2). (Rhythm of meas 7-8 is "short-long-short-short-short-long.")
- 9-10 Repeat meas 7-8.
- 11 Kick R heel fwd ("turned in"), raising L heel from floor and lowering it to make a sound (1), step on R ft crossed in front of L (&), step on L ft in place (2), step on R ft to R (&).
- 12 Step on L ft crossed in front of R (1), step on R ft in place (&), step on L ft to L (2).
- 13 Stomp on R ft (1), stamp L ft near R (2), stomp on L ft (&).
- 14 Pause (1), stomp on R (&), stomp on L (2). (Rhythm of meas 13-14 is

- "long-short-long-short-long.")
- 15 Hop on L ft (1), stomp on R (&), stomp on L (2), stomp on R (&).
- 16 Pause (1), stamp L ft near R (&), stomp on L ft (2). (Rhythm of meas 15-16 is "short-short-short-long-short-long.")

Note: For the purposes of brevity and readability in this description I have used the word "**stamp**" to describe a movement in which a foot makes a sound by striking the floor, **without taking weight on that foot**. I have used the word "**stomp**" to describe a movement in which a foot makes a sound by striking the floor **and taking weight on that foot**.

Sequence: Repeat each figure as many times as you like, switching from one figure to the other as you please. Sometimes it is fun to dance face to face with another dancer, as long as you both please.