CALUSARII Oltenia, Romania

This dance was learned by Martin Koenig as he saw the dance steps here arranged, being performed in different villages in the province of Oltenia. This dance was presented by Stephen Kotansky at both the Idyllwild Conference and San Diego S.U.F.D. Conference in 1981.

PRONUNCIATION: Kah-loo-sha-ree

FORMATION: M dancing individually in a semi-circle (sometimes circle, sometimes line) facing LOD, holding stick in R hand and a fist on the L hip or hand free at side.

RECORD: Balkar-Arts LP, Cintec Si Jocuri Populare Rominesti, BA 6H (used mostly in class); or Balkan-Arts LP BAEU-2, Romanian Folk Songs and Dances Vol II, Side A, Band 1

NOTE: "The Calus is one of the oldest rituals in traditional Romanian Culture. * So starts an article on The Calus written by folklorist Ance Giurchescu in Traditions magazine, 1974. Ms Giurchescu has done extensive research on the dances of "the Calus" in her work with the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore in Bucharest.

During stride steps, stick is either in R hand and out STYLE: to side, over shldr, behind neck, etc. When doing the stride steps there is a slight rocking of the upper body.

METER: 2/4 PATTERN

Meas. Cts. INTRODUCTION: 2 beats

FIG. I:

- 1-6 Do 12 deliberate striding steps fwd in LOD, beginning R. with a marked accent on first step.
- 1 Lift on L in place.
 - Stamp R heel fwd, no wt.
 - 2 Leap onto R.
 - & Stamp L heel fwd, no wt.
- 8 1 Jump onto both ft with ft apart
 - Jump up clicking ft together in the air and make 1/2 turn L to face RLOD.
 - 2 Land on L
 - Click R to L, no wt.
- Repeat meas 1-8, 3 more times (4 in all). 9-32 NOTE: Meas 9-15 moves in RLOD; 16-24 in LOD; 25-32 in RLOD.

- Repeat meas 1-4, Fig. I (8 stride) 1-4
- Repeat meas 7, Fig. I (stamps)
 Repeat meas 8, Fig. I, (jumps), 3 times. The first two facing LOD - no turn; the third 1/2 turn L.
- 9-32 Repeat meas 1-8, Fig. II, 3 more times (4 in all).

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FIG. III:
          Prep for ct 1: Begin to lift R sharply to R.
1
          Lift on L in place, raising R up high and slightly out,
          R knee bent and turned slightly in.
          Stamp R heel fwd, no wt.
      2
          Step slightly fwd on R.
2
3<del>-</del>4
5
          Repeat meas 1, with opp ftwk.
          Repeat meas 1-2.
          Turning to face slightly L of ctr, hop on L kicking R
      1
          leg out to R.
          Click R to L, displacing L slightly to L.
      2
          Step L to L
          Click R to L, displacing L slightly to L.
      &
6
      1
          Step L to L
      &
          Stamp R fwd, no wt.
          Accented step fwd on R, begin to turn twd LOD.
7-8
          Turning to face LOD, repeat meas 5-6, with opp ftwk and
          direction, moving out of the ctr.
9-16
          Repeat meas 1-8.
          FIG. IV: (Place bottom of stick on floor and hold top.)
          Facing diag L of ctr, lift on L. Stick remains on R.
1
      1
      &
          Step R to R with accent
      2
          Hold
          Close L to R with click.
2
      1
          Step R to R with accent.
          Turning 1/4 CW (R) to face diag R of ctr, step L to L
          Close R to L with click and without wt.
3-4
          Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and moving out of circle.
          then L.
          NOTE: When using record BA 6H add the follong meas:
5-16
          Repeat meas 1-4, 3 more times (4 in all).
          FIG. V: SIRBA
1
          Facing ctr, leap in place, extending L to L to begin small
          CW circling motion.
          Close L to R with click.
      2,& Repeat cts 1,&, with opp ftwk.
2
          Step R to R
      1
      ô٤
          Step L to L
      2
          Close R to L with click and no wt.
3-16
          Repeat meas 1-2, 7 more times (8 in all).
          FIG. VI: SIRBA SUS
          Repeat meas 1, Fig. V.
1
          Jump onto both ft, ft apart.
2
      1
          Jump up and click ft together in air.
          Land on L and extend R to R to begin CCW circling motion.
          Hop on L, clicking R to L.
3-4
          Repeat meas 1-2, Fig. V.
5-16
          Repeat meas 1-4, 3 more times (4 in all)
          MUSIC SPEEDS UP
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FIG. VII: (Stick in air)
1
          Moving fwd, hop on L, lift R knee across L leg
          Step R in front of L with accent turning slightly L
      2
          Hold
      ණ
          Hop on R turning slightly R
      1
2
          Step L fwd
      &
          Step R fwd.
      2
          Step L fwd
          Repeat meas 1-2.
      1
          Hop on L, face ctr.
          Slap R fwd with straight leg
      &
      2
          Hold
6
      1
          Step R to R
      å
          Step L behind R
      2
          Step R to R
      &c
          Stamp L heel next to R
7
      1
          Step L to L
          Step R behind L
      &
      2
          Jump into stride pos.
          Jump up clicking ft together in the air.
          Land on L, extending R to R to begin CCW circling motion
8
      1
      2
          Click R to L.
9-12
          Repeat meas 1-4, but move straight bkwd with small reel.
          Repeat meas 1-12, twice more
13-36
37-47
          Repeat meas 1-11
48
          Leap L in place
      2
          Stamp R fwd, no wt, and put bottom of stick on floor on
          R side.
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Original notes by Martin Koenig, Ruth Miller and Marcel Vinokur. Notes slightly revised at both Idyllwild and San Diego Conferences, 1981.

Presented by Sherry Greenwald Treasurers' Ball Institue November 7, 1981