

HÓDMEZŐVÁSÁRHELYI PÁLCÁSTÁNC — Hungary (Southeast)

Int.

[hōhd-me-zœ-vah-shahr-hel-yee pahl-tzahsh-tahnts]

(Solo dance for young man with stick)

Translation: Stick Dance from village of Hódmezővásárhely.

Record: Folkraft LP-29 (side B band 1)—gypsy orchestra (1:12).

Formation: One or more men anywhere, each with a stick about two feet long stuck in right boot. (If you have no boot, hold stick down quietly in right hand). Right foot free.

Music 4/4

Measure

FIGURE I — Introduction

1-12

Strut around, clearing a place to dance, with 24 LEAP-HOPS\* forward starting with right foot. Now take stick in right hand for this and all remaining figures.

FIGURE II — No turn

1-6

In place, facing one direction:

A slight leap onto right foot, bending left knee to swing left foot up across in back and brush stick backward across left instep (count 1),

Hop on right foot, straightening left knee to swing left foot forward and brush stick forward across left instep (count 2); and . . .

repeat eleven more times (12 times in all), alternating footwork.

7-12

With stick held high, proudly, twelve LEAP-HOPS as I above, moving in a small counterclockwise circle.

FIGURE III — Turn in place

1-12

As II above except turning left in place during the stick brushing of measures 1-6.

FIGURE IV — Small circle

1-6

As II measures 7-12 above.

7-12

As II measures 1-6 above, except continue moving in the small counterclockwise circle during the stick brushing.

\*SPECIAL GLOSSARY FOR THIS DANCE

LEAP-HOP (right)(♩): Leap on right foot, bending left knee to swing left foot up in back (count 1), hop on right foot, swinging left leg forward with knee straight (count 2).

LEAP-HOP (left): same, reversing footwork.

Note: This dance is very free. The circles described above as counterclockwise may just as well be clockwise, and/or the steps may begin with left foot—it makes little difference. In the original village form the dance goes on until the stick breaks! Unless you wear Hungarian boots you may find your foot breaks before the stick does.