

HORĂ

(Hora de la Câmpulung)
Romania (Moldavia Region)

There are many dances called horă in Romania. The term is also used generically to refer to any folk dance done in a large circle. The horă presented here is purported to be from the Câmpulung district, but has for many years been done everywhere in Moldavia. In the nineteenth century, its steps and music were popular among the nobility, and a version of it, Hora unirii, 'Hora of unification', became practically a national anthem during that period. (Romanian musicians took this dance elsewhere in the Balkans; in old Serbia it was done by the aristocracy under the names Bojerka and Biserka).

MUSIC: Among many available are Electrocord STM-EPE 0963, Bd. 1, Hora din Voitinel; Bd. 10, Hora mare a Câmpulungului; STM-EPE 0993, Hora Bucovinei

RHYTHM: 6/8, in a rhythm pattern of slow-quick, slow-quick per measure.

FORMATION: Open circle, men and women, hands joined and held at shoulder height.

METER: 6/8

ACTION

Meas

- 1 Facing very slightly R of center, step Rft in line of dance (1); very low bounce on Rft, bringing Lft forward ready to step (&); step Lft, continuing in line of dance (2); very low bounce on Lft, continuing in line of dance (&).
- 2 Continue, stepping Rft in line of dance (1); close Lft beside Rft, taking weight on Lft (&); again step Rft in line of dance, turning to face center (2); pause (sometimes with slight bounce on Lft) (&).
- 3 Facing center, step Lft forward toward center (1); very low bounce on Lft (&); step Rft backwards (away from center) (2); very low bounce on Rft (&).
- 4 Still facing center, step Lft sideways to L (1); close Rft beside Lft, taking weight on Rft (&); step Lft sideways to L (2); very low bounce on Lft (&).

Notes by Dick Crum, revised 9/89.

Presented by Dick Crum at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 1994