LA HUNGROISE

(Hungary/Poland/Bohemia/France)

"The national waltz of the Hungarians is one of the most pleasing dances in Europe; and in the country from which it takes its title, is performed on festive occasions with equal zest by the magnate and the peasant, its distinguishing movements being characterized by simplicity and elegance, which have deservedly placed it among the most favored and fashionable dances of the continent."

Charles Durang in The Ball-Room Bijou, 1847

PRONUNCIATION: ung-wahz., also spelled Hongroise

MUSIC: R. Powers special cassette for Laguna Folkdancers Festival 1993

STEPS: THE TURNING REDOWA in polka time:

<u>First measure</u> (1 bar of music = 2 counts)

Facing into the room, right foot free: Turn 1/4 clockwise to face line-of-direction and step down onto the R, in place (count 1); extend L forward (reaching under your partner's R leg) and step on it (ct &); turn 1/4 clockwise and close R to L with weight (ct 2), pause.

Second measure

Facing out of the room, L free: Turn 1/4 clockwise and step down onto the L, in place (ct 1); extend R straight back, stepping on it (ct &); turn 1/4 clockwise and close L to R with weight (ct 2), pause.

The gentleman usually commences the Redowa on the second measure, i.e. onto his L foot, backing against LOD, while the lady commences on the first measure, onto her R foot.

Note: If the Redowa is done to 3/4 music, simply omit the pause at the end, counting 1-2-3 instead of 1-&-2.

METER: 2/4 PATTERN

Meas

LA HONGROISE according to Elias Howe, 1862:

PARTI

- 1-2 In waltz position, with the gent facing out of the room, he raises his L leg to the left side (preparatory count "and"); hop on the R while clicking the heels together, toward his left side (ct 1); step L to the left side (ct &), close R to L with weight (ct 2). Repeat this much for counts 3 & 4.
- Execute a full turning Redowa, with the gent beginning with the second measure, stepping L-R-L (cts 1 & 2) for a half-turn, then the first half of the Redowa (R-L-R on cts 3 & 4). This completes the step (4 bars) and the man is once again facing out of the room.

For the tune "Lezginka," repeat this step 3 more times.

The lady starts with her right foot to the right side, doing the opposite steps of the man, and beginning with the first half of the turning Redowa.

La Hungroise cont. - (page 2)

PART II

Galop 4 slides toward LOD, ending with a half-turn CW; galop 4 slides toward LOD on the other foot, ending with a half-turn; then polka 4 bars.

Presented by Richard Powers at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 1993 © 1988 Richard Powers, revised 1992