

In gradina lui Ion

Banat, Romania

In a village the traditional customs, dances and music are submitted to the cycle of the life and the cycle of the year. While in the latter the sequence of the agrarian works are determining the customs, dance and music e.g. "Drăgaica" and "Călus" at the beginning of summer, "Cununa de spice" (ear wreath) by the end of the harvest, etc., the life cycle is specific to various ages and accompanies the entire life of the people. Of course, important events such as christening, wedding and even death have their own songs, dances, sayings. Every age category has its own manifestation. At the age to be married, young girls sing and dance about love, about their future. We present here one of these songs, which can be found also in other regions not only in Banat.

This dance was presented by Theodor and Lia Vasilescu at Mainwoods Dance Camp, 2001.

TRANSLATION: In John's garden

PRONUNCIATION: en greh-DEE-nah looeE EON

MUSIC: Romanian Folk Dances #5 by Lia and Theodor Vasilescu, track 9

FORMATION: W in an open circle with hands joined in escort pos.

STEPS: Touches: All touches are on the full of the ft and touch the floor softly.


Bounces: When bouncing the un-wt'd ft lifts beside the wt'd leg.

METER: 3/8

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 16 meas. Beg with vocal

R — (L) BEHND - close (2) 
 (R) — L LEFT - cross front - R L left behind
 (R) — (L) DIAG - BACK ; (R) DIAG - BACK

- PART A:**
- 1 Facing ctr and moving sdwd R - step R diag R fwd - upper body bends diag R fwd (ct 1); step L behind R - straighten body (ct 2); touch R beside L, no wt (ct 3).
 - 2 Repeat meas 1.
 - 3 Facing R of ctr - step R fwd in LOD (ct 1); bounce on R (ct 2); step L across R (ct 3).
 - 4 Facing ctr - step R to R (ct 1); bounce on R (ct 2); step L behind R (ct 3).
 - 5-6 Repeat meas 1-4.

PART B:

- 1 Facing ctr - step R across L (ct 1); step L bkwd close to R heel (ct 2); facing diag R of ctr - large step fwd on R in LOD (ct 3).

(R)

- 2 Large step L across R (ct 1); touch R beside L (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 3 Facing ctr - large step R to R (ct 1); touch L beside R (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 4 Facing L of ctr - step L diag R bkwd - upper body bends slightly fwd (ct 1); touch R beside L (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 5 Step R diag fwd across L - straighten body (ct 1); step L bkwd close to R heel (ct 2) facing R of ctr - step R fwd in LOD (ct 3).
- 6 Step L across R as R circles fwd (ct 1); step R across L (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 7 Bounce on R as L circles fwd (ct 1); step L across R (ct 2); step R bkwd (ct 3).
- 8 Step bkwd on L (ct 1); touch R beside L (ct 2); hold (ct 3).

PART C:

- 1-4 Repeat Part B, meas 5-8.
- 5 Facing ctr - step R across L (ct 1); step L bkwd close to R heel(ct 2); step R to R(ct 3).
- 6 Facing R of ctr - step L across R (ct 1); bounce on L (ct 2); step R fwd in LOD (ct 3).
- 7 Repeat meas 6.
- 8 Step L across R (ct 1); facing ctr - touch R beside L (ct 2); hold (ct 3).

Repeat dance from beginning. The dance is done a total of 4 times.

LRICS

În grădina lui Ionu
Tăte păsările dormu

In John's garden
All the birds are sleeping

Numai una nu mai doarme
Tătă noaptea strigă loane

Only one is not sleeping
Calling John all night through

Nu e Ion, i nimic
Ion s-o dus după iubitu

John is not there, nothing is there
John went to look for love

Da iubit n-o căpătat
Și s-o-ntors târziu din satu

But he didn't get any love
And came back late from the village

Original dance notes by Lia Vasilescu
R&S'd by dd 9-11

Presented by Beverly Barr
Camp Hess Kramer Institute
October 12-14, 2001

① R-^{LIFT}front - R - L ^{LIFT}BACK

② ① FRONT - BACK
③ FRONT - BACK - close
④ SIDE STEP - ⑤ BACK

⑥ FRONT SIDE - ⑦ FRONT
⑧ SIDE - ⑨ SIDE - ⑩ SAME
⑪ BACK - ⑫ SIDE - ⑬ SIDE
⑭ FRONT SIDE - ⑮ FRONT - ⑯ SIDE - ⑰ SIDE - ⑱ SIDE - ⑲ SIDE - ⑳ SIDE