

# ÎNVÂRTITA DIN LUNA-TURDA

Romanian

PRONUNCIATION: eun-veur-TEE-tah deen LOO-nah-TOOR-dah (eu approximately as in "fleur-de-lis")

TRANSLATION: Spinning dance from the area of the towns of Luna and Turda.

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Sunni Bloland who learned it from Costea Constantin during Sunni's research trip to Romania in 1967-68 and introduced it to folk dancers in the United States in 1969. Sunni taught the dance at the 1970 California Kolo Festival, at the 1979 Laguna Folk Dance Festival in Laguna, California, and at the 1982 San Diego State University Folk Dance Conference.

BACKGROUND: The word "învârtita" comes from the verb "învârti" meaning to whirl around or to spin. This învârtita was found in the area of the towns of Luna and Turda (near Cluj in Transylvania) by Costea Costantin, a dance researcher at the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore in Bucharest (București). Turda is situated on the Arieș River. The Turda Gorge is a natural reserve situated about 4 miles west of Turda with marked trails for scenic hikes crossing streams and bridges. In 1918, Transylvania united with Romania, and Turda with it. In 1944, the Battle of Turda took place here, between German and Hungarian forces on one side and Soviet and Romanian forces on the other. It was the largest battle fought in Transylvania during World War II. There is evidence of human settlement in the area dating to the Middle Paleolithic, some 60,000 years ago. The Potaissa salt mines were worked in the area since prehistoric times.

MUSIC: NOROC (45rpm) N-2708,  
Electrecord (LP) EP 0108, Musica Populara Transilvania, Side 2, Band 10, "Invîrtita lui Macrea,"  
or any other învârtita in 2/4 time.

FORMATION: Scattered cpls of M and W (or cir of cpls facing CCW), W on M R side, inside hands joined and raised, M L hand held free or down to side, W R hand on hip with fingers fwd or held down to side.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: Compared to other more fully developed and complex învârtitas, this one is fairly simple with only three figures. In most învârtita dances the woman is forcefully directed by the man who is also the improviser of the two. Although the woman may appear passive, she is in fact moving in a very controlled way as she is being wound up, thrust, twisted, and turned in pirouettes on her heels and is strong but modest in her demeanor. The peasants, though very active, are not overly flamboyant, and their concentration seems to be more on what each is doing rather than on each other. The dance described here is in a set pattern but the figures may be done in any order and for any length of time at the whim of the man.

I. PIROUETTES (OPEN POS)

	MAN	WOMAN
1	Hold (ct 1); moving fwd, step L with joined hands and R shldr fwd (ct &); hold (ct 2); step R with joined hands and L shldr back (ct &);	Hold (ct 1); moving fwd, step R with joined hands and L shldr fwd (ct &); hold (ct 2); step L with joined hands and R shldr back (ct &);
2	Step L in place leading W into 1 3/4 CW pirouettes on her heels (ct 1); step R in place (ct 2); step L in place (ct &).	Dance 1 3/4 CW pirouettes on heels beg with step on R (ct 1); pivot CW on heels (ct 2); end on R in opp dir (ct &).
3	Hold (ct 1); moving bwd, step bwd R (ct &); hold (ct 2); step bwd L (ct &);	Hold (ct 1); moving fwd, step fwd L (ct &); hold (ct 2); step fwd R (ct &);
4	Step R in place beg to lead W 1/2 CW turn (ct 1); step L in place (ct 2); step R in place with W at R side facing fwd (ct &).	Step L beg a three step 1/2 CW turn (ct 1); step R turning CW (ct 2); step L ending to face fwd at M R side (ct &).
5-16	Repeat action of meas 1-4 three more times (4 in all) except that W does not make final 1/2 CW turn on fourth time through but is lead directly in front of M and ends facing M in shldr-waist pos.	

II. FWD AND BWD (SHDLR-WAIST POS)

	MAN	WOMAN
1	Hold (ct 1); moving fwd step L (ct &); hold (ct 2); step R (ct &);	W move bwd in same dir using opp ftwk except for the last step L in 8 which, unlike the M, remains the same (with wt).
2	Step L bending knee (ct 1); step bwd R (ct 2); step bwd L (ct &).	
3-4	Repeat action of meas 1-2 in opp dir with opp ftwk.	
5-8	Repeat action of meas 1-4, except that last step in meas 8 for M is omitted (held without wt) to change ftwk for next Fig.	

III. CPL TURNS (SHLDR-WAIST POS) M AND W

- 1 Hold (ct 1); step R across in front of L (ct &); pause (ct 2); step L swd (ct &);  
 2 Four quick walking steps RLRL with the fourth somewhat longer than the other three (cts 1&2&);  
 3 Hold (ct 1); step R across in front of L (ct &); pause (ct 2); step L swd (ct &);  
 4 Step R in place bending knee (ct 1); step L turning to face opp dir (ct 2); step R (ct &).
- 5-7 Repeat action of meas 1-3 in opp dir with opp ftwk;  
 8 Step L in place bending knee (ct 1); M remains in place as he leads W to his R side to face same dir stepping R (ct 2); W step L as M holds on R (ct &).

Repeat entire dance from beg.

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 Romania

Că ți-oi fi, Bădița dragă, Cu păru-n năframă albă, La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. Cu flori roșii podobită Ca să știi că-ți sunt iubită. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.	That is you, dear Badita, The white kerchief in your hair, La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. The red flowers like jewels To know that you are loved. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
Că și io, bade, ți-oi coase Tot cu fire de mătase La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. Pe cămașa ta cea albă Multe flori care-o să-ți placă. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.	That and him, bade, you sew sheep All the silk La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. On thy white shirt Many a flower to your liking. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
Chiu, fete, și-om cânta Pînă ne-om împreuna La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. Și-om munci, munci cu spor Împreună pe ogor. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.	Shout, girls, and singing-man Until we get together La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. And man, work to increase With the field. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
Amîndoi ne vom iubi Viață nouă ne-om glăddi, La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. Viață în gospodărie, Tineri-n tovărășie. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.	We both love We'll get a new life dear one, La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. Life in the household, Youth in companionship. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.