

Presented by Sunni Bloland

ÎNVÎRTITA din LUNA-TURDA  
Transylvania, Romania

Sunni Bloland learned this *învîrtita* from Costea Costantin, an ethno-choreologist at the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore in Bucharest, Romania. He found the dance in the village Luna-Turda in Judet Cluj in 1957. Compared with other more fully developed and complex *învirtitas*, this one is fairly simple with only three figures.

In most of the *învîrtite* (from the verb *Învîrtare* - to turn) I've seen, the woman is forcefully directed by the man. She may appear passive, but in fact she is quite busy being wound up, thrust, twisted, and turned. Her turns are often done as pirouettes on the heels, a skill requiring a fair amount of practice to master. The woman usually carries her free arm down at her side or at her waist. She moves in a controlled way. She is strong but modest in her demeanor. The peasants I've seen dance, though very active, are not flamboyant. Their concentration seems to be more on what each is doing rather than on each other. The man's role is to direct his partner, prepare her for turns. Of the two, the man is the improviser.

RECORD: NOROC 2708-A (45)







FORMATION: Cpls scattered around the room, or a double circle facing CCW. Cpls inside hands are joined and down with W on M R side, and both facing fwd.

STYLING: Flat-footed feeling, often syncopated (&,1,&,2, etc). Both need strong arms (with tension) in order for M to move his partner around. Hug ptr and/or kiss her hand when dance is over.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Rhythm Meas. Cts.

			<u>FIG. I - MEN:</u> (Do 4 times in all)
	1	1	Hold.
		+	Step L in place.
		2+	Repeat 1+ with R.
	2	1	Step L in place with plie.
		2	Step R in place.
		+	Step L in place.













3-4

Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and move back slightly.

(Note: M must help W around by leading her. His free L hand is held either up or behind his back.

*continued...*

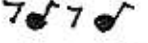

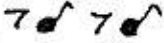
FIG. I - WOMEN:

- |  |   |    |   |
|--|---|----|---|
|   | 1 | 1  | Hold  |
|   |   | +  | Step R fwd (moving in front of M).                |
|   |   | 2+ | Repeat 1+ with L.                                 |
|  | 2 |    | Turn 1-1/2 full turns (pirouettes) CW (R).        |
|   |   | 1  | Step out on R.                                    |
|   |   | +2 | Pivot around on both heels.                       |
|   |   | +  | End on R facing ptr with R shldrs together.       |
|   | 3 | 1  | Hold.   |
|   |   | +  | Step L twd M, R side.                             |
|   |   | 2+ | Step R continuing twd M, R side.                  |
|   | 4 | 1  | Step L in place (Plie) turning twd R to face fwd. |
|   |   | 2  | Step R.   |
|  |   | +  | Step L. Continue turn to face fwd.                |

On 4th repetition, during the last meas, W remains facing M and change to shldr-waist pos.

FIG. II: (do a total of 2 times)

Formation: W facing M in shldr-waist pos. Steps are described for M, W use opp ftwk.

- |   |   |   |                       |
|---|---|---|-----------------------|
|  | 1 |   | Walk L,R fwd.         |
|  | 2 | 1 | Step L fwd with plie. |
|   |   | 2 | Step R bkwd.          |
|   |   | + | Step L bkwd.          |
|  | 3 |   | Walk L,R fwd.         |
|   | 2 | 1 | Step L fwd with plie. |
|   |   | 2 | Step R bkwd.          |
|   |   | + | Step L bkwd.          |
|   | 3 |   | Step R,L bkwd.        |

*Continued...*



1 Step R bkwd with plie.

2 Step L fwd.

+ Step R fwd.

On last repetition, M must leave out the last step so as to change ftwk for Fig. III.

FIG. III: (Do only once)

Formation: Same as Fig. II. Ftwk same for both M and W.



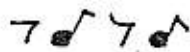
1

Stepping R,L move CW around ptr (modified "buzz" turn action). Start by crossing R.



2

Continue turning with 4 quick steps. The 4th step is a little larger and with plie than the rest.



3

Repeat meas 1



4

1 Step R in place with plie.

2 Step L across R.

+ Step R to R and begin turning CCW.

5-8

Repeat meas 1-4 turning CCW (step 1,2-1,2,3,4-1,2,plie-1-2). On last ct M breaks at step R to switch ft, and he leads the W over to his R to repeat dance.