

Kezes

(Moldvai Csángó-Rumania)

The Hungarian-speaking Moldvai Csángó-s live on the eastern slopes of the Carpathian Mountains in Rumania. Their dance and folk culture, like that of the Gyimesi Csángó-s contains an archaic layer of Hungarian dance culture as well as a layer closely related to Rumanian and Balkan dance culture. Kezes (lit. "The Hand One") is somewhat like the Dobrudžan Růka in that it contains arm movements and stamps. I learned it from Ferenc Sára. See Öves.

Pronunciation: KEH-zesh

Cassette: Garlic Press Productions GPP-004

4/4 meter

Formation: Closed circle, "W" handhold

Meas

Pattern

ARM MOVEMENT.

- 1 Arm movement is retained throughout the dance. Arms drop from above shldr "W" pos to shldr-level (hands) "w" pos (ct 1)(Note*: a slight fwd and down circular movement is implied.); bring hands back up to high "W" pos (ct &); lower arms (ct 2); bring back up (ct &); arms and hands swing fwd and down twd pos low and back (ct 3); hands reach pos behind waist (ct &); hands begin to swing up twd original pos (ct 4); reach high "W" (ct &).

CENTER AND BACK.

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R ft fwd (ct 1); step on L ft fwd (ct 2); step on R ft fwd (ct 3); step on L ft beside R ft (ct &); step on R ft in place (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction (backing out).
Variation: Add scuffs on cts 1&,2& of meas 1 and meas 2.

SIDE TO SIDE.

- 1 Fall slightly onto R ft to R (ct 1); step up onto L ft to R (ct &); fall slightly onto R ft to R (ct 2); step up onto L ft to R (ct &); fall slightly onto R ft to R (ct 3); step up onto L ft to R (ct &); fall slightly onto R ft (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 of Side to Side with opp ftwk and direction.

STEP-SCUFF.

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step on R ft (knee bends slightly)(ct 1); scuff-stamp L ft beside R ft (ct &); step on L ft fwd (knee bent)(ct 2); scuff-stamp R ft beside L ft (ct &); repeat cts 1,&,2,& but with opp ftwk and direction (cts 3,&,4,&).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 of Step Scuff.

DOUBLE STEP-STAMP.

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step on R ft (knee bent) diag fwd to R (ct 1); stamp-close L ft with wt to R ft (ct &); step on R ft diag fwd to R (ct 2); stamp L ft (no wt) beside R ft (ct &); repeat cts 1,&,2,& but with opp ftwk and direction (cts 3,&,4,&).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 of Double Step-Stamp.

Kezes (continued)

LONG STAMP SEQUENCE.

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step on R ft (knee bent)(ct 1); scuff-stamp L ft beside R ft (ct &); hop on R ft and lift L ft up in back (ct 2); step on L ft fwd with accent (ct &); fall onto R ft slightly fwd (knee bent)(ct 3); step on L ft fwd with accent (ct &); fall onto R ft fwd (knee bent)(ct 4); step on L ft fwd with accent (ct &).
- 2 Continue to move fwd by repeating action of cts 3,&4,& of meas 1 (fall,step,fall,step)(cts 1,&2,&3,&4,&).

SEQUENCE:

Center and Back 2x
 Side to Side 2x
 Center and Back Var. 2x
 Side to Side 2x
 Step-Scuff 2x
 Double Step-Stamp 2x
 Step-Scuff 2x
 Double Step-Stamp 2x
 Long Stamp 4x

Presented by Stephen Kotansky and Susan Snyder-Kotansky