

MÎNÎNȚĂLU

MICHERECHI (Méhkerék)

(Romanian village in Hungary)

Micherechi is the western-most Romanian village in Hungary, near the Romanian border. It is the only village in Hungary inhabited by Romanians only. The Romanians settled in this then empty area in the 17th. and 18th. centuries. Although separated from Romania proper, Micherechi has preserved the old style music and dance, perhaps because of this separation. This suite of dances was learned in the Hungarian táncház-es. The suite consists of many dances: the two couple dances introduced here, plus many other figures, several other couple dances, a women's circle dance and men's solo and traveling dances.

Pronunciation: Meeh-keh-reh-kee

Music: Sebó Ensemble, Music in Folk Dancing Rooms (double album),
Hungaraton SLPX 18031-32 II/A-3;
Rumanian Folk Music from Hungary, Hungaraton SLPX 18077 A-I,1.

Formation: Cpls in contra-style line, with lead cpl next to musicians
If more than one line, men are always close to walls.

Mîniñțălu (Fast)

Formation: Cpls in shldr-shldrblade hold.

music 2/4 Pattern

I. Resting Figure

Men and women opposite ft wk, mirror image movement. Only men's steps given unless women's steps differ.

Meas

opt. Introduction. Leader begins when ready.

- 1 Step fwd diagonally R on R, bending both knees (ct 1); step on left to side, turning diagonally L, both knees bent, (ct 2).
- 2 Close R to L, straightening knees (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 3 Step back on L, bending both knees (ct1); step on R to side, knees bent, turning diagonally R (ct 2).
- 4 Close L to R, straightening knees (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

II. Transition Figure from I to III

Men and women same ft wk, opposite dir.

- 1 Step R close to partner in line, L shldr close, bending knees (ct1); Step L slightly ahead of R, wt on both feet, bending knees (ct 2). Smooth, non-sounding action. *continued...*

Minințălu (continued)

- 2 Čukče R, straightening knees (ct 1); step L to side, in frnt of partner (ct &); close R to L (ct 2).
- 3-4 Repeat meas. 1-2 with opposite ft wk and dir.

(This figure is done only once as a transition.)

III. Minințălu (main figure, fast figure)

M and W basic figures slightly different ft wk, with men turning in place, women sweeping an arc.

Men's figure

Variation 1.

- 1-4 Same steps as fig. II only rotating in place CCW meas 1 and back meas 2, CW meas 3 and back meas 4. Sounding with each step.

Variation 2.

- 1 Čukče L, straightening knee (ct 1); step R to R, rotating CCW (ct &) close L to R, bending knees (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2, opposite rotation, same ft wk.

Variation 3.

Same as variation 2 , but opposite ft wk, same rotation.

Variation 4.

- 1 Čukče L, straightening knee (ctl); step R to R (ct &); close L to R, bending knees (ct 2); step R, straightening R (ct &).
- 2 Step L, bending knee (ctl); step R, straightening R (ct &); step L, bending knee (ct 2).

Women's figure

Variation 1.

- 1 Step R to R, bending knees (ct 1); leap onto both, bending knees, (ct 2). (Rotate CCW around M)
- 2 Close R to L (ct 1); step L to L (ct &); close R to L (ct 2).
(Rotate CCW)
(Down on beat 1, up on beat &.)
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1 and 2, opposite ft wk and rotation.

- Pista Papp
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