

Opinca

(Romania, Bucovina (area north of Moldova))

Opinci, primitive leather shoes with laces, were worn by most peasants until the 1950s. In certain rural regions, they are still worn on holidays. Like French clogs, the *Opinci* are the symbol of Romanian peasants. The slightly drawn-out rhythm suggests elderly dancers. *Opinca* is a dance consisting of two alternating parts. The first one is an archaic dance with an irregular rhythm: 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2. The second part is from the great variety of *Hora moldovans*.

Pronunciation: oh-PEEN-kah

CD: *Romanian realm*—Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2004, Band 2.

2/4 meter

Formation: Mixed circle, hands held in V pos.

Meas

Pattern

12 meas

INTRODUCTION (optional action)

Ft together, hands in W-pos, bounce (S,Q,S,Q,S). Bring hands down to V-pos on the last 2 meas.

FIGURE I *Opinca*

(Hands joined in V-pos, facing ctr. Rhythm of steps: S,Q,S,Q,S.)

1-2

Step on R to the R, facing slightly in the moving direction, raise L leg slightly (cts 1,&); bounce on R heel (ct 2); step fwd on L (cts &,1); step fwd on R (ct &); step fwd on L, raising R leg slightly, turning 1/4 to the L (CCW) (ct 2).

3-4

Step on R to R, turning 1/4 to the L, raising L leg slightly (cts 1,&); bounce on R heel (ct 2); step bkwd on L (cts &,1); step bkwd on R (ct &); step bkwd on L raising R leg slightly (cts 2,&).

5-6

Repeat meas 1-2, with same ftwk but moving to L.

7-8

Repeat meas 1-2, same ftwk but moving to the L. Turn CCW 1/2 to face LOD as you step on R (ct 1).

9-16

Repeat meas 1-8.

FIGURE I WITH HANDS

Repeat Fig I swinging arms: fwd (1&); bkwd (&3); fwd (&); bkwd (4&). (Arms rhythm: S,S,Q,S).

TRANSITION

1-2

Walk 4 steps to R (LOD) beg with R, raising arms gradually to W-pos.

FIGURE II

(Facing ctr, hands in W-pos doing tiny circles (up first, twd ctr of circle).)

1

Step fwd twd ctr on R (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct 2).

2

Step fwd on R (ct 1); touch with ball of L ft (ct 2).

3-4

Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk moving bkwd.

5

Step fwd on R (ct 1); touch ball of L ft (ct 2).

6

Step bkwd on L (ct 1); touch ball of R ft (ct 2).

7-8

Repeat meas 1-2.

9-16

Repeat meas 1-8 with opp ftwk and direction.

FIGURE III

- 1 Step on R across in front of L (ct 1); step on L sdwd to L (ct 2).
- 2 Step on R across behind L (ct 1); step on L sdwd to L (ct 2). (Meas 1-2=grapevine.)
- 3 Repeat meas 1.
- 4 Stamp R in front, diag to L (ct 1); stamp R in front, diag to R (ct 2).
- 5-7 Repeat meas 1-3.
- 8 Step on R across behind L (ct 1); stamp L near R, no wt, ft parallel, slightly fwd (ct 2).
- 9 Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R sdwd to R (ct 2).
- 10 Step on L across behind R (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2).
- 11-14 Repeat meas 9-10 twice (3 total).
- 15 Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2).
- 16 Step on L across behind R (ct 1); touch ball of R ft to R (ct 2).
(Note: meas 9-16=4 grapevines except ct 2 of meas 16.)

TRANSITION

- 1-4 Walk 8 steps to R (LOD), beg R.

FIGURE IV

- 1-2 Facing ctr, hands slightly higher than W-pos, ft in second pos, sway to R, wt on R (style: double-bounce on R heel) (ct 1); ft in second pos, sway to L, wt on L (double-bounce on L heel) (ct 2).
- 3 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L across in back of R (ct 2).
- 4 Step on R to R (ct 1); stamp L in front, no wt (ct 2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 9 Step on R, raising L leg in front (knee slightly bent) (ct 1); pause (ct 2).
- 10 Step on L, raising R leg in front (knee slightly bent) (ct 1); pause (ct 2).
- 11 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (ct 2).
- 12 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L (ct &); step on R (ct 2).
- 13-14 Repeat meas 9-10 with opp ftwk.
- 15 Step on L to L (ct 1); step on R across in front of L (ct 2).
- 16 Step on L to L (ct 1); stamp with R in front, bringing hands down to V-pos (ct 2).

Sequence: Fig I, Transition (4 ct), Fig II, Fig III, Transition (8 ct); Fig IV, Fig I, Fig I with Hands, Transition (4 ct), Fig II, Fig III, Transition (8 ct), Fig IV, Fig I, Fig I with Hands ending on the CCW turn (meas 7)

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