

Opincuța

From Basarabia, Moldavia

Presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu

Opincuța is a fast Hora from the Balți region. One of the remarkable characteristics of the Hora family is the arm movement, as the arms are held in W position. Usually the hands create small circles and thus give a dynamic and enticing feel to the dance. However, the movement should always be done with a certain nimbleness and subtlety.

This dance is performed through a magnificent interpretation of a popular song by a choir of Moldavian children. The crystal clear and warm voices of these kids make you want to dance with pleasure and vigor.

Formation: mixed circle

Position: Hands up in W pos., facing center

Pronunciation: oh-PEEN-khoo-tsah

Music: *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, Vol. 3, Band 3* or Camp Hess Kramer 2007 CD

Meter: 2/4

Description of *Opincuța*

Meas.	Count	
1-16	32	Musical introduction Feet together, hands doing tiny circles (up first, twd center of circle ...) in W position Figure 1
1	1 2	Step on R swd to R and swinging forearms to R (windshield mvt.) Close L next to R (with wt) and swinging forearms to L (wind. mvt.)
2	1 2	Step on R swd to R and swinging forearms to R (windshield mvt.) Close ball of L ft next to R (no wt) and swinging arms to take original pos.
3-4		Repeat measures 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction
5	1&2 &	Moving to the right, 3 running steps (R, L, R) (flat ft) slightly diag. to the right, hands doing tiny circles (up first, twd center of circle,...) Stamp on L slightly diag. to the center near R ft
6		Repeat measure 5 with opp ftwk to the right
7		Repeat measure 5
8	1 & 2 (1&2 = one two-step)	Step on L (entire foot) Step on R Step on L
9-16		Repeat measures 1-8

Meter : 2/4

Description of *Opincuța* (continued)

Meas.	Count	Figure 2
1-2		Repeat measures 1-2 of figure 1.
3	1	Step on L to the left
	2	Close R next to L (with wt)
4	1	Step on L to the left
	&	Brush with R heel, bend knee. Leg crossed in front of other leg
	2	Follow through with the movement of lifting the R leg to obtain 90°
	&	Bring down R ft (no wt) close to L ft (heel in the middle L ft)
5	1	Set down R ft twd the right, slightly oriented twd the line of direction (LOD) but the body remains facing center. The arms begin to swing down twd the back to a V pos.
	2	Cross L ft in front, the arms continue to swing back
6	1	Step on R ft to the right and bring back the arms to W pos.
	2	Step on L ft in place while changing direction (RLOD).
7-8		Do 2 <i>two-steps</i> to the left starting with R ft
9-16		Repeat measures 1-8

Final pattern:

Repeat 4 times; F1 + F2

Presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, © 2006

Presented by Denise Heenan
Camp Hess Kramer Institute
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Song for Opincuța

Frunzuliță iasomie diridi-diridaida
Astă hora-mi place mie diridi-dirididaida (2x)
De micuță am jucat diridi-diridaida
Cum-mama mo-nvățat diridi-dirididaida

Small leaves of jasmine
That's the dance I enjoy
I am dancing this one since I was a child
Likes my mother showed me

Și se joacă pe-nserat diridi-diridaida
Când-e sărbătoare-n sat diridi-dirididaida (2x)
Cântă fete sprâncenate diridi-diridaida
Cu flăcăi din multe sate diridi-dirididaida

And dance during evening
When it is a party into the village
Sing the pretty girls
With the young boys of the village

Zi cobzare zi cu foc diridi-diridaida
Cu drag să intrăm în joc diridi-dirididaida (2x)
Hora să se facă roată diridi-diridaida
Căi horă de altădată diridi-dirididaida

And the player of lute plays with fire
So, with pleasure we will dance
Hora will be like a wheel
Because it's a very old *Hora*

Nici moșnegii nu se lasă diridi-diridaida
Strigă babele de-acasă diridi-dirididaida (2x)
Să vină la hora mare diridi-diridaida
În haine de sărbătoare diridi-dirididaida
Căi horă moldovenească diridi-diridaida
Toată lumea să poftască diridi-dirididaida

Even old men don't give up!
They invite their old wife to come from home
To join the huge *Hora*
With their most beautiful 'Sunday dress'
Because it is *Hora* moldovan
Everybody enjoy!

Presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu 2006