

(Show-boll-ahn'-ool) - The Rat

Romania

SOURCE: Oltenia, Romania. Oltenia is a folkloric zone of Romania composed of approximately three Județ or counties. It has the Danube River & beyond it, Bulgaria as its southern border. To its west lies Banat & to the east, Muntavia. Many of the hundreds of dances from this region are named for animals: Ariciul - the Hedgehog; Boul - the Ox; Calul - the Horse; Rata - the Duck; etc. Here is a dance called the Rat. I hazard the guess that it is a type of Geam-paraua (a dance in 7/16). It is one of the many recreational dances done at such village dance occasions as Sunday Hora. It is interesting because of its unorthodox metric structure & for this reason is classified among the dances of Romania of the Southeast European specific. Șobolanul was learned by Sunni Bloland in Romania & first presented by her at Mendocino Folklore Camp.

MUSIC: Record: NOROC NA 1074-EPA-45 (band 2).
PART I=5/8 & 7/8; PART II=5/8 + 5/8 + 5/8 + 7/8

RHYTHM: 5/8 counted q q q s; 7/8 counted s s q s.

FORMATION: A closed circle of M & W. Hands held down in "V" pos.

Music: 5/8; 7/8

PATTERN

Meas Cts

PART I:
Facing sl to R & moving R

1 qqq Step R,L,R.
(5/8) s Small leap bkwd L as R arcs around behind L.

2 s Con't bkwd small leap R as L arcs around.
(7/8) s Small leap bkwd L as R arcs around.
s Step R in place.
s Step L in place (accented).

Repeat PART I three more times (4 times in all).

PART II:
In place

1 qqq Step R crossing in front, step L in place, step R to side.
(5/8) s Stamping-step L in place as R swirls around in an arc from back to front.

2-3 (5/8) Repeat Meas 1 two more times.

4 ss 2 stamping steps in place R,L.
(7/8) q Step R.
s Stamping step L as R arcs around in front of L.

Repeat PART II once more (two times in all).
Repeat dance from the beginning.

Presented by John Filcich
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