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ROMANY MOOD

(Roumanian Gypsy Dance)

Research accomplished by Sylvia Revin while traveling in Europe. Dance presented by Grace Perryman at Stockton Folk Dance Camp, 1951.

RECORD: "Sarba Calului"-Columbia 36241. No introduction.

FORMATION: Double circle of couples, partners facing, men's backs to center.

STEPS: *Push Step*: Moving directly to the side with a leap, step front, leap, step front, leap, step back and bow; i.e. step sideward L on L ft. with a little leap, extending the R leg to the R side (ct. 1-&), step on R in front of L, bending the knees slightly (ct. 2-&). Repeat the leap and step front using same feet. Step sideward to L with L ft., extending R leg to R (ct. 1 &), step in *back* of L with R (ct. 2 &). Bow to partner, feet remaining in place, the R arm sweeps down in front and then to R hip during the bow (ct. 1-&). As dancer raises from the bow the weight is shifted to the forward foot and the L arm is raised overhead (ct. 2-&).

Polka: A running polka, light and fast, i.e. step fwd. L with a little leap (ct. 1), step R beside L (ct. &), step fwd L with a smaller leap (ct. 2). This is done in the same tempo and spirit as a pas de basque but do not cross feet.

Romany Mood Step: Swing R leg backward from hip, turning toe inward, and hopping on L ft., R arm swings down and back, elbow straight. Free hand hanging at side (ct. 1). Swing R leg forward from hip, turning the toe outward, hopping on L, R arm swings forward, palm turned toward face, head turned to R (ct. 2). Girls flick skirts as hand swings forward. M bring their hands up in a fist as though showing muscle, or M may keep hands in pockets. Step in place three steps, R,L,R (ct. 1-&2). Repeat, swinging L leg and arm. Leg should not be raised more than 12 inches from ground.

STYLE: Stand straight and arch back like proud, independent Gypsies. The first part of the dance is slow, restrained and in grandiose, proud style. The second part is fast and abandoned, but strong.

MUSIC 2/4	PATTERN
Measures	SLOW FIGURE
	STEP I. <i>Leap Front, Leap Front, Step Back, Bow</i>
1-4	Partners facing, M's L hand overhead, R hand on hip, W opposite. Both move clockwise in circle with push step described above. M start with R ft., W with L. The hand that is curved over the head moves outward from the wrist as the leg is extended, and inward as the foot steps across in front of the other. Bow to partner as described above.
5-8	Repeat push steps and bow, moving CCW, reversing hands and starting with opposite feet.
	STEP II. <i>Step, Step, Step, Pose</i>
9-10	Partners facing, both hands joined, walk slightly forward CCW with three walking steps, turning almost back to back, pointing fwd ft. M steps L,R,L point R, W opposite. Joined inside hands pointed forward and down, joined outside hands raised curved overhead.
11-12	With 3 walking steps move back to place, finishing face to face. M steps R,L,R, point L, W opposite. Joined inside hands are curved overhead in back, joined outside hands are down and pointing forward.

ROMANY MOOD (Continued)

MUSIC 2/4	PATTERN
13-16	Drop hands. With push steps, as in Step I, meas. 1-4, both move away from partner in little circle. Bow facing partner and close together, to rejoin hands.
17-24	Repeat Step II, meas. 1-8 exactly.
25-48	Repeat entire Slow Figure, Steps I, II.
FAST FIGURE	
<i>STEP III. Circle Partners and Polka Back-to-Back, and Face-to-Face</i>	
1-8	With 8 running polka steps, M starting L and W,R, move clockwise in a circle around partner, passing R shoulders. Hands swing to side of forward foot. Make the circle as large and round as possible, finish side by side, inside hands joined, both facing CCW in large circle.
9-16	8 polka steps back to back and face to face progressing CCW in circle. The joined inside hands swing forward and then back to help turn the body, the free hand either swings naturally at side or may be held on hip.
<i>STEP IV. Polka With Alternate Turns</i>	
17-18	Man dances forward with 2 polkas, W turns R under joined hands, both starting with R foot.
19-20	Woman dances forward 2 polkas, M turns R under joined hands both start R.
21-36	Repeat Step IV, meas. 1-4, four more times, moving CCW in circle.
<i>STEP. V. Romany Mood Steps</i>	
37-48	Partners facing, dance 6 Romany Mood steps, both starting R ft. and moving away from partner, M toward center, girls out of circle.
49-60	6 Romany Mood steps, both starting R and moving toward partners.
61-120	Repeat all of Fast Figure, Steps III, IV, V.
<i>FINALE. Romany Mood Steps in Circle and Pose</i>	
121-126	Partners move in a small circle, each turning to own R with 3 Romany Mood steps, finish facing. These steps are done very vigorously.
127-128	M does a deep knee bend and springs to a stride stand pose, arms extended outward and upward. W leaps forward on her R foot, swinging L arm overhead, then forward over R foot (ct. 1-2), then steps back on L foot, L arm extended overhead and back, R hand extended down and forward over R foot which is pointed forward on floor (ct. 1-2). (In order to have the R foot free for the pose the W does not put her weight on it at end of last Romany Mood step).

LET'S DANCE!