

Dans Țigănesc (Romania)

Dans Țigănesc (DAHNS tsee-gah-NESK), or Gypsy Dance, combines a slow and a fast dance from Muntenia. It was taught by Theodor Vasilescu at the '97 Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Michael Ginsburg, who learned the dance from Vasilescu, taught it at the '96 Mendocino Folklore Camp.

Cassettes: Theodor Vasilescu, Romanian Folk Dances 1997, Side B/21. 3/4, 2/4 meter
Michael Ginsburg, Balkan Bits '96, Side B/3.

Formation: Partners facing, or any number of solo dancers in a circle facing ctr. Footwork is the same for all.

Steps and Styling: Movements are relatively free. Arms are usually held close to the body near waist level, tending to move forward and back in opposition to the feet. Fingers snap and hands clap forward (optional for W). With knees bent, body is often hunched, twisted, and/or crouched.

Measures 3/4, 2/4 meter PATTERN

(3/4) SLOW DANCE

4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. PART A

- 1 Facing diag R of ctr and moving CCW in LOD, step on R (cts 1-2); scuff L fwd (ct 3).
- 2 Step on L across R (cts 1-2); scuff R fwd (ct 3).
- 3 Turning to face ctr, step on R across L (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); step on R beside L (ct 3).
- 4 Facing diag R of ctr, step on L across R (cts 1-2); turning to face ctr, scuff R fwd (ct 3).
- 5 Inclining torso to R and rotating slowly and smoothly CCW, step on R across L (cts 1-2); step on L slightly behind R, as M raises R heel sharply (ct 3). Arms are rounded, elbows bent, with R hand near R thigh and L hand raised near shldr height.
- 6-8 Repeat meas 5 three times, but on last ct raise L leg sharply, diag fwd across R with knee bent.
- 9 Keeping most of wt on R and crouching, step across R onto ball of L ft, as L arm moves back (cts 1-2); take wt on full L ft, raising R leg sharply with knee bent (ct 3).
- 10 Facing ctr, extend R ft to R, stepping with most of wt on ball of R ft, as torso inclines to R (cts 1-2); restoring wt to L, lift R leg sharply fwd with knee bent (ct 3).
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 13 Facing ctr and moving in LOD with knees bent, step on L heel across R, as L arm moves back (ct 1); pivot sharply CCW on L heel to face L of ctr (ct 2); step on R beside L (ct 3).
- 14 Step on ball of L ft behind R, as L arm moves fwd (ct 1); pivot sharply CW on L to face R of ctr (ct 2); step on R beside L (ct 3).
- 15-16 Repeat meas 13-14, but on last count keep wt on L.

II. PART B

- 1 Facing ctr and moving in LOD, step on R to R (cts 1-2); step on L behind R (ct 3).
- 2 Step on R (cts 1-2); turning to face diag R of ctr, scuff L fwd (ct 3).
- 3 Moving in LOD, step on L across R (cts 1-2); step on R beside L (ct 3).
- 4 Step on L across R (cts 1-2); turning to face ctr, scuff R fwd (ct 3).
- 5 Step fwd on R (cts 1-3).
- 6 Keeping R in place, take a long step fwd onto L (cts 1-2); step back on R (ct 3).
- 7 Step back on L (cts 1-3).
- 8 Keeping L in place, step back on R (cts 1-2); step fwd on L (ct 3).
- 9 Keeping most of wt over L, step fwd on R heel (cts 1-2); hop on L, moving R leg backwards with knee bent (ct 3).
- 10 Keeping most of wt over L, step bkwd on ball of R ft (cts 1-2); hop on L, moving R leg fwd with knee bent (ct 3).
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10.
- 13 Beginning slow CW turn, raise hands with palms beside head (or fwd above head height) and step on R (cts 1-2); raise L leg fwd with knee bent (ct 3).
- 14 Continuing CW turn, repeat meas 13 with opp ftwk
- 15-16 Repeat meas 13-14, completing one CW turn.

SUGGESTED SEQUENCE (Slow Dance): I, I, II, II, I

(2/4) FAST DANCE

4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

W holds skirt up a little and swishes it, except during claps, which are optional.

I. CIRCLING CCW

- 1 Facing and moving in LOD, step fwd on R (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct &); step fwd on R (ct 2); scuff L fwd (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3 Repeat meas 1.
- 4 Step fwd L, R (cts 1,&); step fwd on L, raising R leg fwd across L with bent knee (ct 2).
- 5 Chug back on L with body bent fwd at waist, bringing ankles together, R crossed in front of L (ct 1); with wt on both ft, bend knees (ct &); straightening knees, chug bkwd (ct 2).
- 6 Repeat meas 5, cts &,2 twice (cts &,1,&,2).
- 7 Touch ball of R ft in front of L (ct 1); step fwd on R in LOD (ct 2).
- 8 Repeat meas 7 with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

II. GRAPEVINE, CLAPS, AND SLOW TURN

- 1 Facing ctr and moving in RLOD, step fwd on R heel, as R arm moves back (ct 1); step heavily on L (ct &); step back on ball of R ft, as R arm moves fwd (ct 2); step heavily on L (ct &).
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.
- 4 Step on R across L (ct 1); pivoting to face diag R of ctr, raise L leg fwd with knee bent (ct 2).
- 5 Stepping on L across R, clap hands fwd, pushing them away (ct 1); turning to face ctr, step back on R (ct &); turning to face slightly L of ctr, step on L beside R (ct 2); step on R across L, clapping hands fwd (ct &).
- 6 Repeat meas 5, cts &,2,& with opp ftwk and direction (cts 1,&,2).
- 7-8 Swing R leg across L, rotating body 1/4 CCW and taking wt on both ft. Complete one full CCW rotation smoothly, or while bouncing three times (once per count), as legs unwind; end with ft parallel. During turn torso inclines slightly bkwd; arms are raised with palms beside head.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

III. CLAPS AND SLAPS

- 1 Facing diag L of ctr and moving in RLOD, step on R across L (ct 1); step on L (ct 2).
- 2 Step on R across L (ct 1); pivoting on R to face diag R of ctr, kick L ft up and back, and look back over L shldr (ct 2).
- 3 Facing diag R of ctr and moving in LOD, step on L across R (ct 1); step on R (ct 2).
- 4 Step on L across R (ct 1); pivoting on ball of L ft to face ctr, raise R leg fwd with knee bent (ct 2).
- 5 Step on R beside L (ct 1); clap fwd (ct &); touch L ft fwd (ct 2); clap (ct &).
- 6 Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 7 M: Step on R (ct 1); slap R thigh with R hand (ct &); slap L thigh with L hand (ct ah); touch L ft fwd and slap R thigh with R hand (ct 2); clap (ct &). W do not slap, and their clapping is optional.
- 8 Repeat meas 6.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

IV. CCW CIRCLE AND CLAPS

- 1 Begin movement in CCW circle, stepping twd ctr, R, L, R, scuff L (cts 1,&,2,&).
- 2 Moving to L, repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk. Cpls may dance this part back-to-back.
- 3-4 Moving back and to R, repeat ftwk of meas 1-2 to complete CCW circle.
- 5 Jump R onto both ft a shoulder width apart (ct 1); leap onto R, bending L knee to bring L ft behind R knee (ct 2).
- 6 Jump L onto both ft a shoulder width apart (ct 1); leap onto L, bringing R leg fwd in front of L with knee bent (ct 2).
- 7 Stepping on R across L, clap hands (optional) fwd, pushing them away (ct 1); turning to face ctr, step back on L (ct &); turning to face slightly R of ctr, step on R beside L (ct 2); step on L across R, clapping hands fwd (ct &).
- 8 Repeat meas 7, cts &,2,& with opp ftwk and direction; end with stamp fwd on R, no wt (cts 1,&,2).

SEQUENCE: Dance FAST DANCE as written three times total.