

HORA MOLDOVENEASCA
(Moldavia)

Hora Moldoveneasca (HOH-rah Mohl-doh-veh-NIASS-kah) is a couple's dance comprised of steps that are traditional patterns danced in Central Moldavia. It was taught by Gheorghe Ivanov, choreographer of the "Vesselia" Folk Ensemble at the Heritage International workshop in Cornwall, Ontario, Canada in July 1990. More recently, it was presented by Yves Moreau at the 1991 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

CASSETTE: YM-UOP-91 Side B/I.

2/4 meter

FORMATION: Couples are in a closed circle facing ctr, W on M's R. Hands are joined at shoulder height in "W" pos. Wt is on L ft (R ft is free).

STEPS: Two-step*

STYLING: Proud. Arms pump up and down slightly while in "W" pos.

MUSIC 2/4 meter PATTERN

Measures

INTRODUCTION 8 measures.

I. TRAVEL TO LOD AND TO CENTER (Couples joined to form closed circle)

- 1-2 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving in LOD (CCW), step fwd on R ft (ct 1); step fwd on L ft (ct 2); step fwd on R ft (ct 1); step fwd on L ft (ct 2); (4 walking steps facing and moving in LOD, R-L-R-L).
- 3-4 Facing RLOD and moving in LOD, repeat meas 1-2 using identical footwork; (4 walking steps in LOD, R-L-R-L), while gradually lowering arms down to sides in "V" pos.
- 5 Facing ctr, step fwd on R ft, returning arms to "W" pos (ct 1); step fwd on L ft (ct 2).
- 6 Step fwd on R ft (ct 1); touch ball of L ft fwd (ct 2).
- 7 Facing ctr, step bkwd on R ft (ct 1); step bkwd on L ft (ct 2).
- 8 In place, step on R ft (ct 1); step on L ft next to R (ct &); step on R ft next to L (ct 2) while bringing arms down to sides in "V" pos.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

II. WOMAN DANCES AROUND MAN AND CPLS SLIDE TO CTR (Dancers work as cpls)

- 1 Men's part. Arms: Release L hand from neighbor's R hand and put it on own L hip, fingers fwd. and remain joined with partner (M's R, W's L hands). Facing ctr, step to R on R ft (ct 1); step next to R ft on L ft (ct 2).

- 2 Step to R on R ft (ct 1); touch L ft next to R ft (ct 2).
- 3 Facing ctr, repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and dir.
- 4 Repeat meas 3, ending facing partner and LOD.
- 1 Women's part. Arms: Hold M's R hand in W's L hand, W's free arm (R) straight and stretched bkwd. (Meas 1-4: facing and moving RLOD, W dances four two-steps in a CCW circle around and in front of her partner.) Step fwd on R ft (ct 1); step on L ft next to R ft (ct &); step fwd on R ft (ct 2).
- 2 Continuing to dance CCW around man, repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1 and 2 ending facing partner and RLOD.
- 5 Men's part. Cpls in ballroom pos, free hands joined and arms stretched to ctr (M's L, W's R); Facing LOD and moving twd ctr, step on L ft while straight free arms move up (ct 1); step on R ft next to L ft while straight free arms move down (ct 2) ("slide-close").
- 6 Step twd ctr on L ft while arms move up (ct 1); touch R ft next to L ft without wt, holding arms in up pos (ct 2).
- 7 Facing LOD and moving away from ctr, step on R ft to R while arms move down (ct 1); step on L next to R while arms move up (ct 2).
- 8 Step to R on R ft while arms move down (ct 1); step on L ft next to R while dropping free hands and joining L hand with neighbor to form one large circle again (ct 2).
- 5-7 Women's part. Facing RLOD and moving twd ctr repeat meas 5-8 of Men's part but with opposite ftwk.
- 8 Step to L on L ft while arms move down (ct 1); touch R ft next to L while dropping free hands and joining R hand with neighbor to form one large circle again (ct 2).

III TO SIDES AND TO CENTER

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R to R (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2).
- 2 Step on R to R (ct 1); point L ft in front and to the R of R ft (no wt) (ct 2).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 but with opp ftwk and dir.
- 5-8 Repeat Fig I, meas 5-8.

IV WOMEN TO CENTER WHILE MEN CLAP HANDS

- 1-2 Men's part. Repeat ftwk Fig II, meas 1-2. Clap hands, chest high, in a syncopated pattern on cts 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
- 3 Repeat Fig II, meas 1 with opp ftwk and dir.
- 4 Facing ctr step on L ft to L (ct 1); clap hands (ct &); touch R ft next to L, without wt, clapping hands (ct 2).
- 5-7 Repeat meas 1-3.

- 8 Repeat meas 4 but turn to face RLOD.
- 1 Women's part. Facing ctr step fwd on R ft (ct 1); step fwd on L ft (ct 2). Arms are raised above head and move to R when stepping on R ft and to L when stepping on L.
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1.
- 4 Beginning an CW half turn in place to face partner, step on R ft (ct 1); step on L ft (ct &); step on R ft (ct 2). Place hands on hips, fingers fwd.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 ending to the R of M, both facing RLOD, inside hands joined in "W" pos, free hands on hips, fingers fwd.

V COUPLES PROMENADE CW

- 1 Cpls facing and moving in RLOD, step fwd on R ft (ct 1); step fwd on L ft (ct 2).
- 2 Step on R ft (ct 1); step fwd on L ft (ct &); step fwd on R ft (ct 2); step fwd on L ft (c&).
- 3-6 Repeat meas 1-2, two more times.
- 7 Repeat meas 1.
- 8 Repeat meas 2 but face ctr stepping bkwd and join into one large circle again.

DANCE SEQUENCE: Repeat dance from beginning (a total of two times) plus Fig I once.