Invirtita
(Romania)

This version of Invirtita (een-vurh-TEE-tah) is a social form of Transylvanian dance from the Transylvanian Plateau near Cluj. It was seen at a student festival in the village of Agafon near Botogani in Moldavia. Although there are differences in style and pattern, nearly all Transylvanian dance is either a form of Invirtita or a man's solo dance. Transylvanian dances are highly improvised and the patterns presented here are a selection of possibilities which may be done in any order and repeated at will. This dance may be done to other Invirtita music from this area.

RECORD: Aman 105 Side B/7.
RHYTHM: 7/16 meter, counted here as 1, 2, 3, (Slow, Quick, Quick).
FORMATION: Partners facing in shoulder-shoulder blade position scattered about the floor. M hands on W back just below shldr blades; W hands on M shdtrs. Arms are rounded.

STEPS and STYLING:
Chorus Step: This turning figure is done w/ shldr-blade pos offset a little to the R when turning CCW. M R hand may move to W upper L arm or may be free and held down or held up and out to side with elbow bent. Man will normally return his hand to W upper arm or shldr blade area to change direction. When turning CW, reverse pos and hold.

Figs I and II - Basic Step: Ftwk same for M and W. One Basic Step per meas. Step 3 times per meas: R (ct 1); L (ct 2); R (ct 3). Step alternates. Man dance in place during Figs I and II, moving only to accomodate travel by W.

Transition from Chorus to Fig I or II: At the end of the Chorus, M lead ptr to his R side while taking W L hand with his R in "W" pos and opening to a side-by-side pos, both facing the same way. W R hand is down at side while M L hand may be held up or down at side. M may snap fingers at will during the figures.

MUSIC 7/16 meter

Measures

INTRODUCTION None.
CHORUS
1 Turn CCW as a cpl, both stepping on R to R side (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (cts 2-3).
2 Step on R to R side (ct 1); turning body to L, lower smoothly onto R ft while bending R knee (cts 2-3).
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 w/ opp ftwk and direction.
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.
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9-11  Repeat mess 1 three times.

12  Repeat mess 2.

13-16  Repeat mess 9-12 with opp ftwk and direction.

I. WOMAN TURNS CCW ONCE AND A HALF

Dance Basic Step throughout figure. Both begin with R ft.
1  M raise joined hands high and lead W behind his back. W move sdwd, facing back of ptr.
2-3  W move CW around to front of M ending with R shldr pointed at ptr chest.
4-5  M turn W CCW 1½ times under joined hands.
6-7  W move CCW around M to return to side-by-side pos.
8  Dancing in place, M rring joined hands down to and past "V" pos.
9-16  Repeat mess 1-8.

II. WOMAN TURNS CCW TWICE

Dance Basic Step throughout figure. Both begin with R ft.
1  M lead W fwd by swinging joined hands fwd.
2-3  M turn W CCW two times under joined hands.
4  M lead W back to his R side while bringing joined hands down to and past "V" pos.
5-16  Repeat mess 1-4 three times.

DANCE SEQUENCE: As taught at Folk Dance Camp, the sequence was: Chorus, Fig I, Chorus, Fig II and repeat all. Actually, the Chorus and Figures may be dances in any order and repeated at will as the man desires.

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