URAI KÖRCSÁRDÁS

Pronounced: Oo-rah-ee Koor-char-dahsh

Ura is a small village in the Szabolcs-Szatmár County in Eastern Hungary. Early historical records show that this village was in existence as early as 1374. The village was destroyed by floods and swallowed by the Ecsed Swamp, but it was always re-built. This was a shepherd area, and the chief occupation was sheep-herding. The people of Ura changed their traditional clothing very early in favor of the urban fashions, although, until recent years, the women still made linen at home for shirts and other "white" garments. This particular version of the dance is a variation of the so-called "Magyar Negyes," a Hungarian dance for four.


Music: Record, Buccaneer JR-1276 B, "Templomot is Epitettem" or Epic LC 3859, Side 2, Band 2. The melody is found in several other recordings, including Monitor MF 365, Side 2, Band 2, but it is included within a suite of songs. The music is in 4/4 meter, and each melody consists of 16 measures.

Style: Lively and powerful.

Formation: Two couples in a small circle, Men face each other. Ladies face each other. Men join hands behind the Ladies' backs. Ladies have hands on Man's nearest shoulders. Sometimes the dance is done in a larger circle also.

Double Csárdás Step: Step to the Right on the Right foot; close the Left foot to the Right, taking weight; step to the Right on the Right foot; close the Left foot to the Right without weight.

THE DANCE

Meas. Ct. Introduction

1/4 No Movement.

1-4 Do one Double Csárdás step to the Right.
1-4 Do one Double Csárdás step to the Left.

1-4 Repeat Meas. 1-2.

5 1 Do a small leap to the Right on the Right foot.
      2 Touch Left heel beside Right foot, then lift foot slightly.
      3 Close Left foot to the Right with a slight stamp without weight.
      4 Pause.

5-6 Repeat Meas. 5 with opposite footwork.

NOTE: You can vary the movements in Meas. 5-6. On ct. 2, do two touch-lifts (cts. 2 & 4) instead of one.

7-8 Repeat Meas. 5-6.

9 1-2 Step back from the circle on the Right foot. Release the hand-hold.
3-4 Step back with the Left foot.

10 1-2 Click both heels together.
3-4 Repeat cts. 1-2.

NOTE: Men may do a boot-clapping variation instead of the heel clicks: Step back with the Right foot (ct. 1); hit Left-inside boot top with Right hand (ct. 2); step forward on the Left foot (ct. 3); hit Right-outside boot top, behind, with Right hand (ct. 4).

11 1 Step forward on the Right foot.
      2 Hop on the Right foot.
      3 Step forward on the Left foot.
      4 Hop on the Left foot.

12 1-2 Step Right, Left, in place.
3 Close Right foot to the Left with a heel-click.
4 Pause.

13-16 Repeat Meas. 9-12 and resume the original hand-hold on the last 2 cts.

NOTE: From Meas. 9-16 on, the Ladies put hands on own hips. The Man's arms are held at a low-forward-side position.

Repeat the dance from the beginning.

The directions for this dance are meant only as refresher notes for those who have learned the dance from a qualified teacher. Dance directions prepared by Ann I. Czompo, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois (c) 1966 by Andor Czompo. This description may not be reproduced without the written permission of Andor Czompo.