

# Golya

(Eastern Transylvania, Romania)

This medley of dances, from the Hargita region, was presented at Stockton Folk Dance Camp by Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion. Many villages in Eastern Transylvania have slightly different versions of these (and several other) “small dances.” Golya (GOH-eeah) is the Hungarian word for stork. It is a dance done primarily by ethnic Hungarians in Transylvania. The other dances in the medley, Șapte Pași (meaning seven steps) and Roatele (meaning wheels), are danced by everyone in the village.

Music: 4/4 meter *Sonia and Cristian Romanian Couple Dances, Volume 2, Track 1*

Video: *Romanian Couple Dances – Vol. 2.* Dances taught by Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu can be purchased from the teachers

Opening Formation: Circle of cpls facing CCW in Varsouvienne pos (see figures).



Steps: Walking, Running, Side-Close-Side, Step-Lift, Pivot.

Meas 4/4 Pattern

None INTRODUCTION. There is no musical introduction at the beginning of the recording. No action on the first four measures of the first dance.

## I. GOLYA. (The stork)

1 Beg R, three walking steps bkwd (cts 1-3); lift R heel (ct 4).

2 Beg L, three walking steps fwd (cts 1-3); lift L heel (ct 4).

3 Repeat meas 1.

4 Beg L, two walking steps fwd (cts 1, 2); step L next to R (M may stamp) (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

5 In place, raise joined hands and bounce slightly at the knees while M helps W to twist upper body to R (cts 1-2); keeping joined hands raised, M helps W to twist upper body to L (cts 3-4).

6 Repeat meas 5.

7 Release L hands. Beg R, M takes three steps in place (cts 1-3). while W turns CW in place under joined R hands with 3 steps; small lift of R heel while raising L (slightly) with knee bent (ct 4).



Men may choose to dance with the free L arm down, or with the arm raised or behind the back (elbow bent at a 90° angle) and step heavily in place.

8 Take Varsouvienne position facing CCW. Beg L, three walking steps fwd (cts 1-3); lift L heel slightly (ct 4). M steps heavily with flat ft.

9-24 Repeat meas 1-8 twice. On the last ct, M replaces small lift of L heel with a step on R as M need L free for the next dance in the medley.

Golya Medley — continued

II. SAPTE PASI. (Seven Steps)

- 1 Beg M's L, W's R, four running steps fwd moving CCW around the circle (cts 1-4).  
2 Continue moving fwd three running steps (cts 1-3); M lift L heel; W lift R heel (ct 4).  
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction, moving bkwd (CW) around the circle.  
5 Beg M's L, W's R, step side-together-side moving away from ptr (cts 1-3); lift heel of standing ft (ct 4). Gradually change arm pos from Varsouvienne to Open position: standing side by side, M's R hand joined with W's L hand at chest level. M's L hand and W's R hand are free.  
6 Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk and direction.  
7-8 Beg M's L, W's R, four step-lifts (step, then lift heel of standing foot). M moves fwd (CCW) while assisting W to turn CW under their joined hands (M's R, W's L).  
9-10 Repeat meas 5-6.  
During measure 10, M moves in a semi-circle to end facing W and CW, in Ballroom position: ptr slightly offset to L.  
11-12 Beg M's L, W's R, four step-lifts. Cpl rotates one (or two) full turn(s) CW while also moving CCW around the circle of the dance.  
13-36 Repeat meas 1-12 twice. On the last two meas, cpl makes less than one full turn so W ends facing M and CW.

III. ROATELE. (The Wheels)

Cpl facing each other in shoulder-shoulder blade pos, W slightly offset to M's R side, M facing CCW, W facing CW.

- 1 Beg M's L fwd diag L and W's R bkwd diag R, step-together-step (cts 1-3). Lift heel of standing ft (ct 4).  
2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk, but continuing to move CCW (M fwd, W bkwd).  
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2, but cpl adjusts slightly in meas 4 so that M's back is to ctr.  
During measures 1-3 W's steps are larger than M's. W moves side-to-side with small curving motions (*croissant*).  
5-6 Two full rotations CW as a cpl while moving CCW around the circle, using four pivot steps.  
7-48 Repeat meas 1-6 seven times.

Notes: The dance sequence crosses the musical phrase frequently (6 meas figure, 8 meas phrase) and comes out even the last time. On this recording the dance medley is done once through.



Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu at Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2018.  
*Photo by L. Tucker.*