

Dana

(Romania, Muntenia)

In the Romanian folk repertoire are found many modern dances with Eastern inspiration and influence. These dances are called *Manele*. Among them *Dana* (DAH-nah), one of the most popular, is performed by gypsies who live near the capital city of Bucharest or in other major cities in southern Romania. Those gypsies came from Turkey, as is clear from the music and steps to this dance. The music is so powerful and stirring, it is impossible to listen to it without dancing. Presented by Cristian Florescu at the 2004 Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

CD: *Romanian realm*—Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2004, Band 6. 2/4 meter

Formation: Mixed open circle, hands free.

Style: Gypsy style; exuberant, snapping fingers, ululating, shaking shoulders. Ladies more feminine, Eastern movements with hands, shaking necklaces.

Meas	Pattern
8 meas	INTRODUCTION Begin dancing Fig I with leader (waiting 1 to 4 meas).
	I. <u>CROSS STEPS</u> Facing ctr, moving to the R (LOD).
1	Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2).
2-10	Repeat meas 1 nine more times (10 total).
11	Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R in place (ct &); step on L next to R (ct 2).
12	Step on R across in front of L (ct 1); step on L in place (ct &); step on R next to L (ct 2).
13-14	Repeat meas 1 twice.
15-16	Repeat meas 11-12, except close R next to L without wt on ct 2 of meas 16.
	II. <u>STEP-CROSS-STEP-TOUCH, ARMS RAISED</u> Hands free, arms higher than shldr, U-pos.
1	Large step on R to R, body facing diag R, raising arms (ct 1); large step on L across in front of R (ct 2).
2	Large step on R to R (ct 1); touch ball of L ft, body facing ctr (ct 2).
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
5-8	Repeat meas 1-4.
	III. <u>CROSS-STEP WITH LEG LIFT</u>
1	Large step on R to R, body facing diag R (ct 1); large step on L across in front of R (ct 2).
2	Large step on R to R (ct 1); raise L leg, knee bent 100° in front.

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

IV. TURNS

Dancers may clap hands on each beat.

1-2 Full turn to R (CW), moving LOD with 3 steps, starting with R (cts 1,2,1); raise L leg, bent knee 100° in front, facing ctr.

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, on the last ct touch ball of R ft near L.

V. TOUCHES

Hands free in W-pos, almost shldr level. W's hands doing Eastern movement (shimmying and turning wrists).

1 Facing diag to L, touch ball of R ft, crossing in front of L (ct 1); touch ball of R ft behind (ct 2).

2 Touch ball of R ft, crossing in front of L (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct 2).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, on last ct touch ball of R ft.

TRANSITION

1-2 Bounce on both heels 4 times.

3-4 Move bkwd with 4 steps, starting with R and raising hands gradually above shldrs (U-pos).

VI. WINDSHIELD WIPER

Wt on L, forearms “windshield wiper” movement.

1 Stamp R in front and diag to L (no wt), arms moving to R (ct 1); stamp R in front and diag to R (no wt), arms moving to L (ct 2).

2 Repeat meas 1.

3 Step on R across in front of L, arms moving to R (ct 1); step bkwd on L, arms moving to L (ct 2).

4 Step on R to R, arms moving to R (ct 1); step fwd on L, arms moving to L (ct 2).

5-20 Repeat meas 1-4 four times (5 total).

FINALE

1-16 Repeat Fig I.

17 Step on L across in front of R (ct 1); step on R in place (ct &); step on L next to R (ct 2).

18 Stamp R (ct 1); stamp R (ct &).

Sequence: Fig I, Fig II, Fig III, Fig IV, Fig V
Fig I, Transition, Fig II, Fig III, Fig IV, Fig V
Fig I, Transition, Fig II, Fig III, Fig IV, Fig V, Finale