Invîrtita

(Romania)

This version of Invîrtita (een-vuhr-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 Agafton near Botoşani in Moldavia. Although there are differences in style and pattern, nearly all Transylvanian dance is either a form of Invîrtita 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 Invîtita 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 shldrs. Arms are rounded.

STEPS and STYLING:

Chorus Step: This turning figure is done in shldr-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 $\underline{1}$); L (ct 2); R (ct 3). Step alternates. Man dance in place during Figs I and II, moving only to accommodate 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 "V" 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

PATTERN

Measures

INTRODUCTION None.

CHORUS

- I Turn CCW as a cpl, both stepping on R to R side (ct $\underline{1}$); 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).
- Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ft_{wk} and direction.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

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- 9-11 Repeat meas 1 three times.
- 12 Repeat meas 2.
- 13-16 Repeat meas 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.
- 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 $1\frac{1}{2}$ times under joined hands.
- 6-7 W move CCW around M to return to side-by-side pos.
- B Dancing in place, M bring joined hands down to and past "V" pos.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

II. WOMAN TURNS CCW TWICE

- Dance Basic Step throughout Figure. Both begin with R ft.
- M lead W fwd by swinging joined hands fwd.
- 2-3 M turn W CCW two times under joined hands.
- M lead W back to his R side while bringing joined hands down to and past "V" pos.
- 5-16 Repeat meas 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 danced in any order and repeated at will as the man desires.
- C) Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc. January 1992