

Jocul soacrei

(Bucovina, Romania)

Pronunciation: ZHOHK-ool soh-AH-kreh-(ee)

Translation: Dance of the Mother-in-Law

Music: 2/4 meter *Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian Realm Vol. 5, Band 12*

Formation: Mixed circle; hands joined in W-pos with hands close to shoulders

Steps & Styling: Two-Step: (Rhythm of each meas: QQS)

Step R to R facing slightly diag R (ct 1); step L next to R (ct &); step R to R (ct 2)

Each Two-Step takes one meas.

In reality the rhythm is 7/8, but for purposes of dance description, it is being written as a slow 2/4.

Meas 2/4 meter

Pattern

1-16 INTRODUCTION Facing ctr. Hands make tiny fwd circles, and these arm movements keep time with the beat (QQS); dance starts with the singing.

I. BASIC STEP

1 Moving CCW, one Two-Step starting R.

2 One Two-Step starting L.

3 Facing ctr, step R twd ctr (ct 1); step L in place (ct &); step R next to L(ct 2).

4 Wt on R, stamp L slightly fwd three times without wt.

5 Step L across in front of R and swing arms down and slightly bkwd (ct 1); bend L knee (ct &); step R to R and bring arms up to orig pos (ct 2&).

6 Repeat meas 5.

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

8 Wt on L, stamp R slightly fwd three times without wt.

Sequence:

Introduction (no action)

16 Basic Steps

Presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu

Lyrics

**Tot mă-n treabă soacră-mea
 Țai ța s-o norii pânza
 Bate-o soacră nici n-am pus
 Că de-bia am tors un fus
 Când naiba socitascut?
 Că rău capu m-o durut
 Și-apă seara-n sat ma este
 Da când so de pânza so țeș**

**Când no fost la deapănat
 Eram la crâșmuță-n sat
 Vin acasă rău beteagă
 Barbațelul capu-m leagă
 Cu ceahlău de la telegă
 Tot ți-e rău nevastă dragă?
 Valeu, valeu mi-o trecut
 Dar zău că n-am sâmbăr mai mult**

**Soacrămea-ța si păcat
 Când ficioru-ai însurat
 P-o cameșă m-i lai dat
 Și-ai zis că-i gata-n brăcat
 Mama soacră, mama soacră
 Haida de m-ajut oleacă
 Ți de pându-n duleraș
 Pentru-ți scumpul fecioraș
 Ț-i nu pând de jucajel
 Pentru a meu bărbățel**

My mother-in-law is always asking
 Whether I've finished weaving.
 Oh, mother-in-law, I haven't even started!
 I've only just finished preparing the spindle.
 When else could I have done it?
 As I had a very bad headache.
 The night was still young in the village
 I didn't have time to finish.

When I was about to make the ball of wool,
 It was time to go to the tavern.
 I came home feeling terrible.
 My husband put a compress on my forehead,
 Soaked with medicinal plants.
 Are you still ailing, my dearest?
 Oh, oooh I feel better,
 But I won't be able to take any more.

It's such a pity, mother-in-law,
 That when you married off your son
 You gave him to me with only one shirt
 And you told me he was well dressed.
 Dearest mother-in-law,
 Come give me a helping hand
 To weave at least one shirt collar
 For your darling son,
 To weave at least one vest
 For my little husband.