

Romaneste de Purtat

One translation of the title is 'the Romanian way (as opposed to say, the 'Hungarian way') to amble along. Literally it means the Romanian way to carry. There are many variants of Purtata dances including those for women only. In Transylvania dances are usually arranged in suites and a Romaneste would serve as an introductory dance to such a grouping. This particular variant from the county of Cluj in Transylvania was introduced at workshops in Western Europe by Theodor Vasilescu. Sunni Bloland worked on the dance with her counterparts in Sweden and personally arranged this variant to suit the recording. The dance has a subdued modest quality.

Origin: Urca, Cluj, Transylvania, Romania  
Cassette: NOROC SLC 6-84 Side A last selection  
Music: 6/8 counted QSQS

Introduction: none  
Formation: Couples; side by side facing CCW, W slightly in front of M; the couple join R hands in front of the W's R shoulder. W's free hand is held down in a relaxed manner; the M's free L hand can also be held down, lifted up to snap fingers or, holding the W's L hand as in Varsouvienna.

Notation: The directions are for the M except where indicated. Bob Fraley helped compose the notes and lead Sunni in her first presentation of the dance at Kolo Festival 1985.

Pattern A "Promenade"

summary:

touch, step touch, step  
step, touch, step step  
brush, step, touch step  
step touch, step step

Measure-Cts.-Movement

- 1 Q touch L toe next to R ft  
S step L fwd  
Q touch R toe next to L ft  
S step R fwd
- 2 Q step L fwd  
S touch R toe next to L ft  
Q step R fwd  
S step L fwd raising ft bk
- 3 Q brush R ft fwd  
S step fwd R  
Q touch L toe diag bk L  
S step L slightly fwd banding body
- 4 Q step R fwd while straightening up  
S touch L toe next to R  
Q step L fwd  
S step R fwd
- 5-7 repeat meas 1-3  
"Cross over"--the partners change places with one another by walking fwd to the spot only turning a slight angle to do so.
- 8 Q W steps L in front of M while M steps R behind W. Each is facing diag fwd in their direction of travel.  
S M touch L toe next to R ft  
W touch R toe next to L ft  
Q M steps L moving to R side of W while W steps R moving to L side of M  
S M step R next to L  
W step L next to R  
change hand hold (M's L in W's L)

Pattern B "Inverted Promenade"

summary:

brush, step, touch step,  
step, touch, step, step  
touch, step, touch, step,  
step, touch, step, step

- 1 Q brush L fwd  
S step L fwd  
Q touch R toe diag bk L  
S step R diag across in front of L turning twd partner & banding fwd
- 2 Q step L bk, straighten up  
S touch R toe next to L  
Q step bk on R  
S step L next to R
- 3-4 repeat Pattern A meas 1-2 (touch, step touch, step step touch step, step)
- 5-7 repeat Pattern B meas 1-3
- 8 M:  
Q turn slightly to L while stepping R  
S touch L toe next to R ft  
Q step L to finish facing LOD  
S step R in place  
taking W's L hand in his R  
W:  
Q W turns slightly to R & steps fwd L  
S touch R toe next to L ft  
Q step R turning L to face M  
S step L in place

Pattern C "Women's Pirouettes"

summary:

pirou, ette, pirou, ette  
step, touch, step, step  
brush, step, touch, step  
step, touch, step, step

- 1 M:  
Q touch L toe next to R ft  
S step L in place  
Q touch R toe next to L ft  
S step L in place  
W:  
Q pirouetting 180° under her L hand  
W steps R across in front of L & spins to L 3/4  
S step on L heel to finish the turn 1/4  
QS repeat for second pirouette (meas 2-3 M's role W's reverse ft)
- 2 Q step L fwd  
S touch R toe next to L ft  
Q step R fwd  
S step L raising R ft in preparation...
- 3 Q brush R ft fwd  
S step R in place  
Q touch L toe diag bk to L ft  
S step L next to R
- 4 M:  
Q step R in place  
S touch L toe next to R ft  
Q step R in place  
S step L in place  
W:  
Q step L in front of partner  
S touch R toe next to L ft  
Q step R to face M  
S step L next to R

Pattern D "Shoulder Waist"

shoulder-waist position  
M moves fwd, W moves bk

- 1-2 repeat Pattern A meas 1-2
- 3-4 repeat Pattern A meas 3-4 but M will move bk as W moves fwd
- 5-8 repeat meas 1-4 but open out at end of meas 8

repeat Pattern C Women's Pirouettes  
repeat Pattern B Inverted Promenade  
repeat Pattern C Women's Pirouettes  
end face to face in shoulder-waist position  
hug & kiss & live happily ever after!

- Sunni Bloland  
KF '85