

ÎNTOARSĂ

Romania (Banat Region)

Notes by Dick Crum for Aman Institute '94

The word *întoarsă* ('n-twar-suh, 'the turning' or 'spinning' dance) is a synonym for the more common dance word *învârtită*; as a matter of fact, the dance described here is also called *învârtită* in some parts of the Banat area. It is a dance I learned from Romanian immigrants in my home town of St. Paul, Minnesota during my childhood.

Recording Two different *întoarsă* melodies are available on special tape cassette #941, *Romanian Folk Dances*.

Position Couples, partners face to face, randomly scattered about the dancing area. Initial position is W's hands on M's shoulders, M's R hand at W's L shoulder blade, his L hand on her upper R arm. For other positions, see below.

Meter 2/4

Meas	Count	Action
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Note: Footwork is identical for M and W throughout this dance.

PART 1 - Cross steps

- 1 Step Rft across in front of Lft, couple rotates slightly CW.
- 2
 - 1 Step Lft to Lft into an "apart" position of feet.
 - 2 Abruptly shift weight onto Rft to R, at the same time M "tosses" W across in front to his L, catching her with his L hand at her R shoulder blade, and places his R hand on her L upper arm (reversed position to that described above under "Basic Position"). This alternating hand switching by the M is used throughout the dance.
- 3-4 Repeat movements of meas 1-2 with opposite footwork and direction.
- 5-16 Repeat movements of meas 1-4 three more times (total 4).

PART 2 - Turning

- 17 Step Rft across in front of Lft, couple begins rotation CW.
- 18-19 4 steps (2 steps per meas), LR/LR, couple rotating CW.
- 20 Same movements as in meas 2 of Part I.
- 21-24 Repeat movements of meas 17-20 with opposite footwork and direction.
- 25-32 Repeat movements of meas 17-24 once more.