

Jaj az uramnak

(Hungarian Gypsy)

"Jaj az uramnak" is a typical Hungarian Gypsy dance. The movements and figures were arranged by Dr. Gustav Balazs, from whom I learned the dance.

Pronunciation:

Music: Cassette: "Gindonale bare" by "Maljaki luludi." Side A/3.

Rhythm: 4/4 meter counted here as "one-two-three-four," or exceptionally, as "one-ee-&-ah, two-ee-&-ah"

Formation: Solo, or Man and Woman facing each other.

Styling: Hands free and generally outstretched under shldr level. (Women's hand generally lower and elbows closer to body.) Snap fingers freely, including a "snap" of the wrists, especially accentuating the upbeat (the "and" count, not the "one" or "two" count.) All Gypsy dances are done with a large degree of personal freedom in styling, with much free movement and shaking of the upper body, that is, not stiffly.

Meas

Pattern

MAN'S DANCE

8 meas INTRODUCTION. Begin when song begins.

I. "TOUCH AND GO" IN PLACE

- 1 Slightly bend L knee and begin moving R ft fwd (ct &); straighten L knee and touch ball of R ft fwd, in front of L ft (ct 1); slightly bend L knee, pick up R ft and begin moving R ft back to place (ct &); straighten knees and step on R ft next to L (ct 2); repeat with opp ftwk (cts &,3,&,4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.

II. TOUCH AND WALK THREE STEPS. BACK AND FORTH

- 1 Slightly bend L knee and begin moving R ft fwd (ct &); straighten L knee and touch ball of R ft fwd (ct 1); walk 3 bouncing steps (bending the knees on the "ands" and straightening the knees on the counts) to the R, keeping body facing mostly fwd (cts &,2,&,3,&,4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp direction and ftwk, that is, point L ft fwd and walk 3 steps to the L.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

III. TOUCH HEEL FORWARD, THREE FAST STEPS TO THE SIDE, CROSSING BEHIND

- 1-3 Like "&1" of Figures I and II, but touch R heel fwd (ct & 1); step on R to R (ct 2); step on L behind R (ct &); step on R to R (ct 3); repeat with opp direction and ftwk (ct &,4,1&2): that is touch L heel fwd and take 3 fast steps to the L, crossing behind.
Repeat all this (cts &,3,4,&,1,&,2,3,&,4): that is, touch heel fwd and fast steps to the side
4 times in all: R,L,R,L.
- 4 Bending slightly fwd from the waist, run (stamp) 3 steps fwd (R,L,R) (cts 1,&,2); click feet together, L into R, taking weight on L straightening body (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

Jaj az uramnak—continued

IV. THREE STEPS BACKWARDS, FIRST LEG-SLAPPING SEQUENCE

- 1 Take 3 steps backwards (R,L,R) turning front ft outwards (cts 1,2,3); touch L ft next to R, without taking wt (ct 4).
- 2 Bending fwd from waist, step on L in place (ct 1); slap inside of R calf with R hand (ct &); step on R in place (ct 2); slap inside of L calf with L hand (ct &); straighten body, lift both arms up and fwd and step on L in place (ct 3); bring both hands down and to the left, slapping inside of R calf with R hand (ct 4).

V. HOPPING AND STAMPING IN PLACE WITH CROSSED FEET

- 1 Hop forcefully on L, kicking R heel fwd (ct 1); step on ball of R ft, crossed in front of L (ct &); stamp on ball of L ft in place (ct 2); step on ball of R ft, crossed in front of L (ct &); stamp on ball of L ft in place (ct 3); bring R ft behind and stamp on ball of R ft crossed behind L (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1 and 2.
(If done correctly your feet should make a noise hitting the floor on every count and not on the offbeat, that is, not on the "and" counts.)

VI. SKIP BACKWARDS, JUMP AND TURN, SECOND SLAPPING SEQUENCE

- 1 Skip backwards 4 steps (R,L,R,L) (ct &,1,&,2,&,3,&,4).
- 2 Jump and land with feet apart (ct 1); jump into the air and click feet together (ct &); separate feet while still in the air (ct ah); land with both feet together (ct 2); jump to a position with R ft crossed well in front of L (ct 3); turn quickly on the toes of both feet 360 degrees CCW, that is, to the L (ct 4).
- 3 "Land" with feet together, knees bent and body bent fwd from the waist (ct 1); slap inside of L calf with L hand (ct &); slap inside of R calf with R hand (ct ah); slap inside of L calf with L hand (ct 2); clap hands together (ct &); step on L ft (ct 3); slap inside of R calf with R hand (ct &); step on R ft (ct 4); slap inside of L calf with L hand (ct &).
- 4 Straightening body, step on L ft (ct 1); slap outside of L thigh with L hand (ct &); lift R leg fwd in front of body and slap inside of R calf with R hand (ct 2); bring R leg down and "land" on both feet together (ct 3); pause (ct 4).

Repeat from the beginning.

Jaj az uramnak—continued

WOMAN'S DANCE

8 meas **INTRODUCTION**. Begin when song begins.

I. **"TOUCH AND GO" IN PLACE**

- 1 Slightly bend L knee and begin moving R ft fwd (ct &); straighten L knee and touch ball of R ft fwd, in front of L ft (ct 1); slightly bend L knee, pick up R ft and begin moving R ft back to place (ct &); straighten knees and step on R ft next to L (ct 2); repeat with opp ftwk (cts &,3,&,4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.

II. **TOUCH AND WALK THREE STEPS. BACK AND FORTH**

- 1 Slightly bend L knee and begin moving R ft fwd (ct &); straighten L knee and touch ball of R ft fwd (ct 1); walk 3 bouncing steps (bending the knees on the "ands" and straightening the knees on the counts) to the R, keeping body facing mostly fwd (cts &,2,&,3,&,4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp direction and ftwk, that is, point L ft fwd and walk 3 steps to the L.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

III. **TOUCH HEEL FORWARD, THREE FAST STEPS TO THE SIDE, CROSSING BEHIND**

- 1-3 Like "&1" of Figures I and II, but touch R heel fwd (ct & 1); step on R to R (ct 2); step on L behind R (ct &); step on R to R (ct 3); repeat with opp direction and ftwk (ct &,4,1&2): that is touch L heel fwd and take 3 fast steps to the L, crossing behind.
Repeat all this (cts &,3,4,&,1,&,2,3,&,4): that is, touch heel fwd and fast steps to the side *4 times in all: R,L,R,L.*
- 4 Hop on L ft, swinging R heel out to R, knees together (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct &); step on L in place (ct 2); repeat (cts 3,&,4).

IV. **TWISTING LOWER BODY**

- 1 Take wt on ball of R ft, twisting both heels to the right (ct 1); take wt on ball of L ft, twisting both heels to the L (ct 2); take wt on ball of R ft, twisting both heels to the R (ct 3); taking wt on both *heels*, twist both *toes* to R (ct &); take wt on ball of R ft, twisting both heels to R (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat Measure 1 with opp direction and ftwk (cts 1,2,3,&,4).

V. **"POLKA" STEPS: SIDE, FORWARD, TURN, BACK**

- 1 Leap onto R to R (ct 1); step on ball of L ft behind R (ct &); step on R in place (ct 2); repeat with opp direction and ftwk (cts 3,&,4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1, but moving fwd.
- 3 Repeat meas 1, but turning 360 degrees to L.
- 4 Repeat meas 1, but moving bkwd, back to place.

Jaj az uramnak—continued

VI. BALL OF RIGHT TOE CROSSING BEHIND, TURNING

- 1 Step on ball of R ft diag behind and to the R (ct 1); step on L in place (ct &); step on ball of R ft crossed diag behind L (ct 2); step on L ft in place (ct &); repeat cts 1, 2, & (ct 3, &, 4, &).
- 2 Turning 360 degrees to L, continue stepping on ball of R ft on the ct and stepping on L on the "and" (cts 1, &, 2, &, 3, &, 4, &).
- 3 Repeat meas 1.
- 4 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on ball of L ft behind R (ct &); step on R in place (ct 2); "land" on both feet together (ct 3); pause (ct 4).

Repeat from the beginning.

Dance descriptions by Lee Otterholt
Presented by Lee Otterholt