

Hora de la Soroca

Basarabia, Moldavia

The town of Soroca is situated on the banks of the Nistru River. The name may be from the Romanian word *soroci*, referring to sorcery and incantations. Less romantic theories suggest that *soroca* comes from the name of a landowner or, possibly, from the word *saraci*, meaning poverty.

Sonia & Cristian learned this dance during a Moldavian party where there was festive music, dance, laughter, excellent food and lots of wine.

Formation: mixed circle

Position: Hands up in W position, facing centre

Pronunciation: HOH-rah deh lah soh-roh-KAH

Meter: 2/4

Meas **Introduction**

1-16 No action; dance starts with singing

Meas **Figure**

- 1 Step on R swd to R swinging hands to R (ct 1), close L next to R (with wt), hands to L (ct 2)
 - 2 Step on R swd to R swinging hands to R (ct 1), touch L next to R (no wt) hands ctr. (W pos)
 - 3 Step fwd on L, arms extend fwd & down (ct 1), lift on L, bring R ft up (R toes near L ankle), arms continue swinging bkwd (very slightly)
 - 4 Step bkwd on R, swinging arms up (ct 1), lift on R, bring L leg up (knee bent 45° and L ft in front) and arms extend fwd and upward to take original position (W pos.) (ct 2)
 - 5 Step on L swd to L (ct 1), lift on L, swing R leg (knee bent 45° and R ft in front)
- Repeat meas 1-5 until music ends

Final count: Stamp on R and bring arms down in V pos (extend fwd and downward), shout "Hey!"

Hora de la Soroca

(Every line is sung twice)

Hăi bună seara dragii mei,
Gospodari și buni flăcăi,
Am venit cu voie bună,
Să petrecem împreună.

Good evening, my friends,
Gracious host, good young men,
I have gladly come,
To rejoice with you.

Așa-i jocul din bătrâni,
Ca gardu din mărăcini,
Așa-i jocul din moșnegi,
Ca gardu din prepelegi.

Olden dances are like that,
Like a hedge of nettles,
Olden dances are like that
Like a fence of stumps.

Așa juca mama me,
Când era cu mine gre,
Așa juca tata meu,
Când era tânăr flăcău.

That's how my mother danced
When she was carrying me,
That's how my father danced
When he was young & handsome.

Hop țuțuc de geama duc,
Ca vasul la tirbutuc,
Hop țuțuc de geama trag,
Ca vasu la ticarag.

*(This verse is difficult to translate;
the words come from a very
specific dialect.)*

Și de cântat va mai cânta,
Nitelnem co-însăra,
Și ni drumul c-am cotit,
Nitelnem de prăvălit.

As for singing, I can still sing
Only a little, for night is falling,
And the road is winding
And a bit rough.

Sănătate ne ducem,
Bucucluri nu vă lăsăm.

Cheers! We're leaving, but
We leave no trouble behind.