

# OLÁHOS

Hungarian

PRONUNCIATION: OH-lah-hohsh

TRANSLATION: Jumping dance

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Andor Czompo who learned it from its arranger, Agoston Lanyi of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

BACKGROUND: Oláhos is an "ugrós" dance from the Lower Tisza region of southern Hungary. According to Mr. Czompo, it is an "old layer" Hungarian dance of the shepherds and "ex-agricultural" laborers of some of the large estates. "Oláhos" refers to those nomadic peoples called "Vlachs," who spread out over southeastern Europe from "Wallachia," in what is now the southern Romanian ethnographic regions of Muntenia and Oltenia.

MUSIC: Express (45rpm) E-409;  
Qualiton (LP) LPX-18007, side A, band 3 (which should be played slightly faster).

FORMATION: Individual dancers, arranged in a loose cir for convenience.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: At times, the body may be bent fwd slightly at the hips. M dance with arms free, elbows bent and moving close to the body. W dance with hands on hips, fingers fwd and thumbs bwd, with wrists somewhat bent.

---

## MEAS

## MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

---

### INTRODUCTION

None. Dancers may prefer to wait 4 meas and beg dancing with meas 5, thus doing the action as described in meas 1-2 only once.

### I. FIGURE ONE

- 1 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &); small leap R swd, bending knees slightly and bringing L close to R ankle (ct 2);
- 2 Jump slightly to L on balls of ft with L in front, knees straight and toes turned slightly outward (ct 1); jump in place on balls of ft with R in front, knees somewhat bent and toes turned slightly outward (ct 2);
- 3-6 Repeat action of meas 1-2 two more times;
- 7 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &); small leap R swd, bending knees slightly and raising L ft slightly to L (ct 2);

8                    Leading with L, jump slightly to L with ft together (ct 1); leading with R, jump slightly to R with a heel-click upon landing (ct 2).

## II. FIGURE TWO

1                    Step R in place (ct 1); step L on heel slightly diag fwd to L with toe raised (ct &); stamp R in place, slightly bending knee and taking wt (ct 2);  
2                    Hop R in place, slightly bending knee (ct 1); step L on heel slightly diag fwd to L with toe raised (ct &); stamp R in place, slightly bending knee and taking wt (ct 2);  
3                    Hop R in place, slightly bending knee (ct 1); step L on heel slightly diag fwd to L with toe raised and clapping hands at about face height (ct &); step R in place, slightly bending knee (ct 2); step L on heel slightly diag fwd to L with toe raised and clapping hands at about face height (ct &);  
4                    Step R in place, slightly bending knee (ct 1); step L on heel diag fwd to L with toe raised and clapping hands at about face height (ct &); stamp R in place, slightly bending knee, taking wt, and clapping hands at about face height (ct 2);  
  
5-7                  Repeat action of meas 1-3 but without the clapping;  
8                    Step R in place, raising L slightly to L (ct 1); leading with L, jump slightly to L with a heel-click upon landing (ct 2).

## III. FIGURE THREE

1                    Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &); small leap R swd (ct 2);  
2                    Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1, with opp ftwk;  
3                    Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (&); step R swd (ct 2); step L across in back of R (ct &);  
4                    Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct &); step R swd, slightly bending knee (ct 2);  
  
5-7                  Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1-3 to L with opp ftwk;  
8                    Step L swd (ct 1); leading with R, jump R swd with a heel-click upon landing.

Repeat entire dance from beg.

---

### OLÁHOS (Jumping dance) Hungary

A barátok, a barátok, facipőbe járnak.  
Azok élnek világukat akik ketten hálnak.  
/ Lá é szegény árva gyerek csak egyedül hállok,  
Akármerre kaparászok csak falat tálok. /

The monks, the monks walk about in wooden shoes.  
The ones who enjoy their lives are those who sleep in twos.  
I am a poor lonely child, I sleep alone.  
No matter which way I stretch I only touch walls.

A csikósok, a gulyások kis lajbiban járnak.  
Azok élnek világukat akik ketten hálnak.  
Lá megmondtam, Angyal Bandi, ne menj az Alföldre.  
Mert megtanulsz csikót lopni, s elhajtának

The horseherds, the cowherds go about in small vests.  
The ones who enjoy their lives are those who sleep in twos.  
Bandi Angyal, haven't I told you, don't go to the lowlands.

érte.

De má mostan jó van dolgom, nem  
parancsol senki:

Mikor mondják, "Mars ki, Jankó!" nekem ki  
kell menni.

Because you'll learn to steal colts, and you'll be  
banished because of that.

But now I am having a good time, nobody's ordering  
me around:

When they tell me "Get the hell out, Johnny!" I must go  
out.

(Bandi Angyal was a famous bandit and folk hero  
in nineteenth century rural Hungary.)

---

Copyright © 2018 by Dick Oakes