



Joc de Leagane (Dance of the Cradle)

This dance is originally from the village of Dragomiresti (Drah-go-meer-eshti), Maramures, Transylvania. Theodor Vasilescu acquired it from the village performance group, and it is no longer performed as a village dance. The dance is in honour of the midwife's birthday. All of the women come to bring the midwife food and gifts, asking her for forgiveness for the burden that they have given her in bearing their children. The midwife calls them her daughters and tells them they have been no burden. The women do not dance this dance with their children; the children are put down on the ground while they sing and dance. When they do the dance as they reach their arms upward, this is a symbolic gesture for the powers above (i.e. the sun, God, etc.) to bring health and favour onto their children.

Mama când mo leganat
nu mai de dor mio cântat
Mama când mo leganat
nu mai de dor mio cântat
mio cântat de dor sio plîns
mio cântat de dor sio plîns
dorul de mine so prins
dorul de mine so prins

de când port dor la inima
de când port dor la inima
nu mai am nici o hodina
nici la prînz si nici la cina

Cîte doruri rele s grele
Cîte doruri rele s grele
Tates pa bratele mele
Tates pa bratele mele

Altul moare de batrîn
Altul moare de batrîn
nu sti dorul de ce-i bun
nu sti dorul de ce-i bun

dar eu stiu ca; lam purta
dar eu stiu ca; lam purta

de când mama mio cântat
de când mama mio cântat

Ai la la la la etc.