

# OPA CUPA

Source: Opa Cupa (Oh-pah TSOO-pah) is a Vojvodina Gypsy dance and is used to encourage dancers. Lee Otterholt learned the dance from Ben Koopmanschaap.

Presented by: Lee Otterholt, Autumn Leave, 2006 Meter: 2/4

Formation: Solo dancers facing center. Hands held freely out to the side, about shoulder height.

Styling: "Gypsy" that is, much freedom for individual styling.

## Measures    Counts

1-16                      Introduction: No action. Dance begins with singing.

### **FIG. 1 – DIAGONAL STEPS AND SIDE-CLOSES**

- |      |           |  |
|------|-----------|--|
| 1    | 1<br>2, & | Turning to face slightly L, step on R foot diagonally FWD and to the R, knees bent. Straightening the knees, place L foot next to R foot and bounce twice. |
| 2    | 1<br>2, & | Step diagonally BKWD and to R on L foot, knees bent. Straightening the knees, place R foot next to L foot and bounce twice.                                |
| 3    | 1<br>2, & | Facing center, step to R on R foot, bending knees. Straightening the knees, close L foot beside R foot and bounce twice.                                   |
| 4    | –         | REPEAT measure 3, but end with weight on R foot.   |
| 5-8  | –         | REPEAT measures 1-4 with opposite footwork and direction.  |
| 9-16 | –         | REPEAT measures 1-8, but end with weight on R foot.  |

### **FIG. 2 – CIRCLE RIGHT LEG AND KICKS**

- |     |           |  |
|-----|-----------|--|
| 1   | 1<br>2, & | Facing center, leap onto L across in front of R, raising R leg to R with knees bent. Move R leg CCW in a large circle.                                 |
| 2   | 1, &<br>2 | Continue to circle R leg CCW in a smaller circle. Click R foot sharply together with L, landing with feet together.                                    |
| 3   | 1<br>2, & | Hop on L foot, swinging R leg behind L, knees together<br>Hop again on L foot, bringing R foot to a small "kick", low and directly in front of L foot. |
| 4   | 1, &, 2   | Hop on L foot one more time; step on R foot side and slightly behind L foot; step on L foot in place.  |
| 5   | 1<br>2    | Leap to the R on the R foot, swinging L leg behind R.<br>Hop on R foot, bringing L foot to a small "kick", low and directly in front of R foot.        |
| 6   | –         | REPEAT measure 4 with opposite footwork.   |
| 7-8 | –         | REPEAT measures 5-6 with opposite footwork.  |

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# OPA CUPA CONTINUED...

Measures	Counts	
		<b><u>FIG. 3 – STAMPS AND MOVING FORWARD AND BACK</u></b>
1	1, & 2, &	Twisting hips CW leap onto R foot beside L foot; stamp L heel beside R instep, no weight. REPEAT counts 1, & with opposite footwork and direction.
2	–	REPEAT measure one.
3	1, 2, &	Facing center, step FWD on R foot; hop on R foot; step FWD on L foot.
		<i>Note: A styling alternative is to twist hips CW on count 1, returning them to face center on count 2. The hop thus becomes a chug with a low-twisting kick, as in Yves Moreau's Sitna Zborenka.</i>
4	–	REPEAT measure three.
5-6	–	REPEAT measures 1-2.
7-8	–	Moving BKWD, REPEAT measures 3-4.
9-16	–	REPEAT measures 1-8.
		<b><u>FIG. 4 – SLALOM AND STAMPS</u></b>
1	1, & 2, &	Facing center throughout, with foot parallel and weight on balls of feet, bend knees sharply; twist on balls of feet and drop weight on heels to R; hold. Straightening knees sharply, return with a bounce to the original positions with hips and toes facing FWD; REPEAT count 1
2	1, &, 2	Hold; REPEAT measure 1, count 2; REPEAT measure 1, count 1 <i>Note: The rhythm of the action in measures 1-2 is SLOW–quick–SLOW–quick–SLOW.</i>
3	1, & 2, &	Facing center, step BKWD on R foot; clap hands in front of chest. Slap R thigh with R hand; slap L thigh with L hand.
4	1 2, &	Step BKWD on L foot and clap hands in front of chest. Slap R thigh with R hand; click R foot to L foot.
5-8	–	REPEAT measures 1-4
		<b><u>FIG. 5 – SLALOM AND FAST GRAPEVINE</u></b>
1-2	–	REPEAT measures 1-2 of FIG. 4, but take weight on L foot and raise R heel behind on count 2 of measure 2.
3	1, & 2, &	Continuing to face center, dance a fast grapevine to the R, stepping on R foot to R; step on L foot behind R Step on R foot to R; step on L foot across in front of R
4	–	REPEAT measure 3.
5-8	–	REPEAT measures 1-4.

*Dance repeats from beginning. Dance ends just before FIG. 4 on the third repetition. As the music slows down during the last two measures, dancers may improvise freely.*