

Name: **Briul De La Fagaras**

Origin: **Romania**

Source: **Recreational Folk Dancing**

As originally taught by Sunni Bloland

Short mixed lines, arms in shoulder hold, meter 2/4. However, it makes more sense to use the rhythmic motifs, which use slow (s) and quick (q). A slow beat is 1 quarter note and a quick beat is 1 eighth note. In her notes, Sunni Bloland states :

Fagaras is a town in the western part of Judet Brasov. It is also the name give to a sub-zone of the larger folklore zone of South Transylvania.

This dance belongs to the category of Carpathiann Briu diffused among the villages situated along the roads which shepherds took each year from the South Carpathians to the grazing grounds of the Danube meadows and Dobrogea. The simpler variants of the Carpathian Briu such as this one from Fagaras are done by both men and women, although I suspect this one leans heavily on the masculine side due to the high leaps and leg gestures called for in certain motifs.

Description:

Part I

Measure	Count	Step
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1-2	qssqs	Stamp on R foot in place (q), step heavily on R foot to R and hold (s), leap backward on to L foot, kicking R leg forward, knee straight, leg parallel to floor (s), Leap on R foot to R (q), step on L foot, slightly in front of R foot (s)
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3-16		Repeat measures 1-2 seven more times
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Part II

1-2	ssqqs	Hop on L foot, swinging R foot across L, keeping R leg straight and touching R toe to floor (s) hop
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on L foot touching R toe to R side (s) hop on L foot, moving slightly forward (q) step on R foot in place (q) step on L foot in place while kicking R foot slightly forward with an accent (s)

3-4 qssqs Hop on L foot, moving slightly backward (q), step on R foot in place (s) step on L foot in place (s) step on R foot forward (q) step on L foot forward (s)

5-16 Repeat measures 1-4 three more times

Part III

1 ss Moving to R, hop on L foot twice, clicking R foot to L foot each time

2 qqs Hop on L foot (q), step on R foot to R (q), step on L foot in front of R foot (s)

3-4 qssqs Stamp on R foot in place (q), step heavily on R foot to R and hold (s), leap onto L foot behind R foot (s), leap on R foot to R (q), step on L foot slightly in front of R foot (s)

5-16 Repeat measures 1-4 three more times

Part IV

1 ss Hop on L foot, swinging R leg across L (s), hop on L foot again, swinging R leg diagonally R. Keep R leg straight on both swings

2 ss Hop on L foot, swinging R foot behind L foot, knee bent (s), hop on L foot again, swinging R foot diagonally to the R, knee straight (s)

3-4 qssqs Hop on L foot, moving backward (q), step on R foot to R (s), step on L foot in place (s), step on R foot forward (q), heavy step on L foot in place (s)

5-16 Repeat measures 1-4 three more times

I will put up the notes for the way the dance is done today at a later date. However, I think these are worth looking at to see how much the dance has changed. In particular, note how the dance has

changed from a very syncopated rhythm, to a dance with no syncopation in it at all.