



## Interview with Csárdás Dance Company

2010 JANUARY 25

by The Hungarian Girl

tags: Csárdás Dance Company, Hungarian dancing

With beautifully embroidered costumes and energetic music, Hungarian folk dancing is rooted in rich culture and heritage.

It originally began as a pastime for villagers many years ago. Although folk dancing may not be a part of daily life in Hungary anymore, it is still celebrated and embraced by many people.



*Csárdás Dance Company. Photo courtesy of InMotion Photography.*

Here is a featured interview with professional dance company Csárdás located in Cleveland, Ohio.

### Tell us a bit about Csárdás Dance Company? How did it get started?

Csárdás Dance Company was founded in 1994 by Richard Graber who served as Executive Director, along with Artistic Director, Christopher Smith. Richard was always interested in the art of dance and began learning Hungarian ethnic dances at the age of 14 through the Cleveland Hungarian Scouts and later studied modern dance and classical ballet in Cleveland. He is a graduate of the Ohio State University Department of Dance. He performed as principal dancer with the Zivili Kolo Ensemble. In 1994, Richard founded Csárdás Dance Company and was awarded a dance research and study grant from the Ohio Arts Council to study ethnic dance in Budapest and Romania. In addition, Richard studied under Dance Master Dr. Sándor Timár, former artistic director of the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble and current director of Csillagszemu Táncgyüttes.

### LATEST NEWS FROM THE HUNGARIAN GIRL

Get the latest and the greatest news delivered for free to your reader or your inbox:

[RSS Feed](#) [Email Updates](#)

[Twitter](#)

### POLLS

What's your favourite Czech beer?

- Staropramen
- Pilsner Urquell
- Budvar
- Branik
- Krušovice
- Gambrinus
- Velkopopovický Kozel

[Vote](#)

[View Results](#)

[> Polls Archive](#)

### CATEGORIES

- [> Austrian Food & Drink](#)
- [> Baking](#)
- [> Beer](#)
- [> Christmas](#)
- [> Cooking](#)
- [> Croatian Food & Drink](#)
- [> Culture](#)
- [> Czech Food & Drink](#)

---

**For those that are unfamiliar with traditional Hungarian dance and music, can you describe your different styles and interpretations?**

Csárdás dances are pure joy, high spirits and excitement! Csárdás Dance Company presents traditional and contemporary works stemming from Hungarian heritage. Traditional dance idioms can be representative of a town, counties and regions, such as the region of Sárkőz, the county Zemplén and the town Kalocsa. Contemporary works showcase traditional dance idioms to modern music.

**What type of costumes or traditional outfits do your dancers wear?**

All the dances performed by Csárdás are in traditional costumes representative of the area or place the dance originates – you can see pictures of our costumes at our website [www.csardasdance.com](http://www.csardasdance.com).

**How often do your dancers rehearse?**

We rehearse once per week for 2-3 hours, sometimes more dependent on performance schedule. Rehearsals are mandatory for all dance company members.

**The Csárdás Dance Company has toured locally, nationally, and internationally, can you tell us a bit about your performances?**

Our performances vary from 30-60 minutes in length and encompass a variety of dance repertoire. We sometimes integrate educational aspects into our performances with slideshows of Hungarian landscapes, fashion shows and commentary.



*Csárdás Dance Company. Photo courtesy of InMotion Photography.*

**What type of classes and workshops do you offer?**

Csárdás offers on-going weekly classes for students after the audition process. We also offer occasional workshops for the general public and will instruct on an as-needed basis for educational institutes and other organizations.

**Any additional comments you would like to share with us?**

Csárdás Dance Company has performed throughout the region as well as in Hungary by special invitation. Our youth dancers had the privilege of taking part of a dance camp sponsored and taught by folk dance Master Sándor Timár, during the summer 2007.

Locally, we have performed for thousands of children in schools through our successful lecture demonstration series of performances. The ensemble has also had the privilege of performing with the world-renowned Cleveland Orchestra to special choreographies created by Founder Richard Graber to Brahms Hungarian Dances 5 and 6 and Dvorák Slavonic Dance.

Csárdás Dance Company celebrated our 15th anniversary in 2009. This occasion has been recognized in the United States Congressional Record.

---

Csárdás Dance Company

P.O. Box 391147

Cleveland, Ohio 44139

E-mail: [info@csardasdance.com](mailto:info@csardasdance.com)

Website: <http://www.csardasdance.com>

- > [Easter](#)
- > [Food Facts & Information](#)
- > [German Food & Drink](#)
- > [Hungarian Food & Drink](#)
- > [Just Goulash](#)
- > [News & Events](#)
- > [Polish Food & Drink](#)
- > [Recipes](#)
- > [Romanian Food & Drink](#)
- > [Russian Food & Drink](#)
- > [The Hungarian Girl](#)
- > [Travel](#)
- > [Ukrainian Food & Drink](#)
- > [Uncategorized](#)
- > [Wine](#)

TAGS

austrian desserts austrian food Baking **baking**  
bavarian food BEER Beigli bratwurst bread  
Budapest Christmas Cooking cooking classes  
croatia cupcakes czech beer czech food deli Easter  
easter egg German beer german food goulash  
hungarian cooking **hungarian**  
**food** hungarian girl Hungary  
Kaiserschmarrn lager meat paprika pierogi Pierogi  
fest polish food Prague pysanky **Recipes**  
Sachertorte salami sausage sausages soup Vienna  
wiener schnitzel Wine

VIEWS

- > [Polish Deli & Meat Shops Across North America](#)  
- 21,550 views
- > [About](#)  
- 5,402 views
- > [Poppy Seed & Walnut Rolls For Easter](#)  
- 3,732 views
- > [Hungarian Delicatessen Stores and Bakeries Across North America](#)