

**A special report on an "ethnic" film we will want to see.**

## **"Once Around"**

by Grace Wolff

Mary Wolff, former Miami Valley Folk Dancer, choreographed the Lithuanian Wedding dance for the above film, which was directed by the Swedish Lasse Hallstrom (known for his, "My Life as a Dog") and which stars Richard Dreyfuss and Holly Hunter.

Be alert! The dance sequence is short but beautifully filmed. Look for Mary's credit at the very end! Fourteen members of the Boston based Mandala Folk Dancers, of which Mary is a former dancer and for which she does choreography, did the Lithuanian dancing.

Last spring Mary and the Mandala Dancers were on location in North Carolina where the wedding scene was filmed in the governor's mansion. The ice skating on the lake was done earlier in New Hampshire. Most outdoor scenes were made in the Boston area, including the "Once Around" traffic circle and the Charles River bridge where "Sam" stopped traffic! The authentic Lithuanian bishop performed the baptism in the cathedral!

Mary Wolff has an MA in dance, UCLA, and one in Folklore from Indiana U. She teaches folk and modern dance at the Boston Conservatory and lives in Arlington (close to the "Once Around" circle) with her husband, Howard Burke and her son Clayton, almost 5. Some will remember seeing her in Duquesne University Tamburitsan performances. Grace and Bill Wolff claim her as a daughter.