

Lugovan'ka

(Russia)

The folk song is from the region of Voronezh in Southern Russia. The lyrical circle dance (*khorovod*), refers to the dance and rituals for unmarried girls and is choreographed by Hennie Konings in Russian folk dance style. The dance was first introduced in Holland in 2000.

The title cannot be translated easily because the word is a folkloristic term and has no clear literal meaning. Because *luga* means meadow, one could translate the word lugovonka as “she who is in the meadow,” where “she” refers to some girl. It can, however, also be understood as a reference to the duck, an animal that stands for fertility and metaphorically for a girl.

Pronunciation: loo-goh-VAHN-kah

CD: Russian Dances by Hennie Konings, Stockton 2006

4/4 meter

Formation: Closed circle, hands joined in V-pos.

Steps: Pripandanya R: Small step on R to R side with knee slightly bent (ct 1); step on ball of L ft across behind R with L knee extended (ct 2).

Meas

Pattern

4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

PATTERN

- 1 Moving fwd in LOD (CCW), step fwd on R (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct 2); step fwd on R (cts 3-4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three times (4 total), continuing to move CCW.
- 9-11 Turning L to face ctr, do 6 Pripandanya steps to the R (LOD). the lower arms are kept on top of each other in front of the chest. On cts 1-2 of each meas, the upper body bends slightly sideways to the R, and on cts 3-4 of each meas it bends slightly to the L.
- 12 Step sdwd on R in LOD, upper body bending slightly sdwd to R (cts 1-2); touch the floor with L heel to the L side while L leg is turned slightly outward, upper body bending slightly sdwd to L (cts 3-4).
- 13-15 Repeat meas 2-4 while making a small full circle CCW starting to L and ending facing ctr. At the start, arms open slowly to the sides and take V-pos at the end.
- 16 Step fwd on R twd ctr (cts 1-2); step on L next to R (cts 3-4).
- 17-18 Repeat meas 1-2 fwd to ctr while raising arms slowly fwd and up.
- 19-20 Repeat meas 1-2 bkwd while slowly lowering arms to sides.
- 21-24 Repeat meas 17-20.
- 25-26 Do 4 Pripandanya steps beg R in place (eighth step is replaced with a soft stamp on L, no wt) to make a half turn to the R (CW). Hands are slowly put on waist.
- 27-28 Do 4 Pripandanya steps beg L in place while turning back to face ctr (touch without wt instead of last step).
- 29-30 Do 4 Pripandanya steps beg R while making a full CW turn.
- 31-32 Cross arms in front of chest and slowly make a bow.

Presented by Hennie Konings

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