

PIPERANA

Serbian

PRONUNCIATION: pee-pehr-AH-nah

TRANSLATION: Probably related to the word "piper," meaning pepper.

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Bora Gajicki who danced Piperana in the 1960s as part of the Pirot Suite in Serbia's *Ansambl KOLO*. Bora taught the dance at 1976 the San Diego State University Folk Dance Conference.

BACKGROUND: Pirot, the second largest city in Serbia after Belgrade (Beograd), is the seat of government of the Pirotski District (which includes Babusnica, Bela Palanka, and Dimitrovgrad) in south eastern Serbia along the Nišava River Valley. The historical name of the city was Turre (tower). The city has rich geographical features, including the mountains of Stara Planina, Vlačka Planina, Belava, and Suva Planina. It also has a rich culture, including the Church of St. Petka, and the monastery of St. Georges and St. John the Theologian from the late 14th century, both of which display a fine example of medieval Serbian architecture. Pirot is known for its traditional woven carpet, the Pirot kilim (Pirotski ćilim).

MUSIC: Borino Kolo Folk Ensembl (LP) BK-576

FORMATION: Short lines of mixed M and W holding neighbors' belts in "X" pos, R arm under. If belts are not worn, dancers join hands low in "V" pos, NOT in front basket hold.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: Dance begins with body bent at waist.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

1-8 No action.

I. FIGURE ONE

1 Facing ctr with body bent at waist and moving to R in LOD, step R swd (ct 1); step L across in front of R (ct 2);
2-3 Repeat action of meas 1 two more times;
4 Jump to both ft together, straightening body (ct 1); low hop R (ct 2);
5 Moving slightly to L, low hop R (ct 1); step L (ct &); step R next to L (ct 2);
6 Repeat action of meas 5;

- 7 Jump to both ft with R fwd and wt predominantly on L (ct 1); low hop on L, reeling
R around in back (ct 2);
- 8 Repeat action of meas 7 with opp ftwk;
- 9 Repeat action of meas 7;
- 10-11 Repeat action of meas 5-6 with opp ftwk;
- 12 Step R,L,R in place (cts 1,&,2).
- 13-24 Repeat action of meas 1-12 to L with opp ftwk.

II. FIGURE TWO

- 1 Moving twd ctr, step R across in front of L (ct 1); low hop R (ct 2);
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1 with opp ftwk;
- 3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2,
- 5-8 Moving bwd out of cir, repeat action of meas 1-4.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8.
- Repeat entire dance from beg.