

PRESKAČANKA

Прескачанка

(Northeast Bulgaria)

A variation on the “Pajduško” from the village of Gecovo near Razgrad in N.E. Bulgaria. The “Kapan” district is around the cities of Razgrad, Šumen and Târgovište. It has distinct folk traditions which apparently date back to the times of the “proto-Bulgarians” who settled there in the 5th century A.D. Learned in Gecovo by Yves Moreau in 1971.

Pronunciation: Press-KAH-tchahn-kah

Music: Yves Moreau CD

Rhythm: 5/8 counted here as 1-2, 1-2-3, or 1,2 or quick-SLOW

Formation: Mixed lines. Hands joined down at sides. Face ctr. Wt on L

Style: Fairly small steps. A certain heavy “peasant” quality, slight knee bend.

Meter: 5/8

Pattern

Intro: No special intro. Suggested wait 8 meas

I. “Na mjasto” (in place)

- 1 Step on R in front of L, simultaneously, arms swing fwd, (1). Shift wt back to L in place, arms start swinging bkwd (ct 2)
- 2 Step bkwd on R, arms swing bkwd (1). Step on L in place, arms start swinging fwd (2)
- 3 Repeat pattern of meas 1, exactly.
- 4 Small hop on L in place, arms swing back (1) Small step on R slightly to R, arms start swinging fwd (2)
- 5-8 Repeat pattern of meas 1-4 reversing ftwrk

II. “Na okolo” (around) or “Ljuš” (rocking)

- 1 Small hop on L in place, arms swing fwd (1) Step fwd on R, arms start to swing back (2)

- 2 Small leap fwd onto L, next to R, hands swing bkwd (1) Small step fwd on R, arms start to swing fwd (2)
- 3-8 Repeat action of meas 1-2, alternating fwd. Describe a CW oval floor pattern (i.e., moving fwd, to R, bkwd, and to L, ending in starting position (2 meas for each direction - like in the basic Dajcovo).

III. “Napred-nazad” (forward and back)

- 1 Step on R in front of L, simultaneously hands come up to W pos slightly fwd and pointing to L (1) small step fwd on L, hands remain pointing to L (2)
- 2 Step to R with R, hands now point to R (1) small step fwd on L, hands remain pointing to R (2)
- 3-4 Repeat pattern of meas 1-2, exactly.
- 5 Small hop on L in place, hands start to move fwd and upwd (1) step on R in front of L, hands move downward (2)
- 6 Shift wt back on L in place (1) shift wt onto R in place (2)
- 9 Small hop on L in place (1) step bkwd on R (2)
- 10 Still moving bkwd, repeat pattern of meas 9, reversing ftwrk
- 11-12 Repeat pattern of meas 9-10 (“reeling steps”)
- 13 Wt on L, facing ctr, cross R over L (1) shift wt back onto L (2)
- 14 Small hop on L in place (1) small step on R slightly R (2)
- 15-16 Repeat action of meas 13-14, reversing ftwrk

Note: Leader calls the change of figures at will

Description by Yves Moreau