

Bračno Oro

Dance based on Shiptar (Albanian) dance motifs, created by Ciga Despotović, well-known Yugoslavian dance instructor. The title means "Wedding (Round-) Dance."

MUSIC: "Bračno oro" from "Born of Love," (Nevofoon CD 1997.1055)

RHYTHM: 7/8 (3+2+2 / 8), or "long-short-short," counted here "one-two-three," or, exceptionally (1+2+2+2 / 8) counted "one-and-two-three."

FORMATION: Open circle of men and women. Handhold: High handhold ("W").

STYLE: Men's styling is with generally larger movements than women's.

METER: 7/8

PATTERN

Meas

I. FIRST FIGURE (Same ftwk for M and W)

- 1 Facing and moving LOD, step on R ft (1), lift L leg in front, knee bent, holding rhythm with a "bounce" of the knee of the supporting leg (2), repeat "bounce," continuing to lift L leg in front (3).
- 2 Step on L ft (1), bringing R ft near L ankle, lift L heel from floor (2), transfer weight quickly to ball of R ft (3).
- 3 Take a long step on L ft (1), step on R ft (2), step on L ft (3).
- 4 Turning gradually to face RLOD, step on R ft to side (1), step on L ft behind R (2) and step R ft in place (3).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk in opp dir.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

II. SECOND FIGURE (WOMEN)

- 1 Facing and moving LOD, step on R ft (1), step on L ft (2), step on ball of R ft (3).
- 2 Take a long step on L ft (1), step on R ft (2), step on L ft (3).
- 3 Step on R ft (1), lift L leg in front (2-3).
- 4 Turning to face center, bend R knee and "dip" L leg down (1), now facing center, straighten R knee and lift L leg under you, toward center (2), pause (3).
- 5 Step on L toward center (1), lift on L heel (2), step back in place on R ft, releasing hands (3).
- 6 Turning to face R, lift slightly on R ft (1) cross L ft in front of R (&), step on R ft in place (2), facing center, step on L ft beside R (3).
- 7 Repeat meas 6 with opp ftwk and dir.
- 8 Repeat meas 6, but continue facing LOD and take hands.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8

WOMEN'S HANDS: During meas 6-8, W's hands are stretched out to the side, palms up on "1" ("scoop up water"), then rotated slowly inward ("let water run out of the hands") until palms are facing down (2-3) each measure.

II. SECOND FIGURE (MEN)

- 1-5 Same ftwk as W.
- 6 Turning to face R (LOD), take large step backward (RLOD) on L ft. taking all weight on this ft, knee bent, while keeping ball of R ft on floor, knee bent (1). Plie twice (2,3).
- 7 Turning to face L, take all weight on R ft in place, assuming position symmetrically opp of meas 6 (1). Plie twice (2,3).
- 8 Turning to face R, take all weight on L ft in place, assuming same position as meas 6 (1), Plie twice (2,3).
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

MAN'S HANDS: On meas 6, M's R hand is placed in front, over head level, palms out ("shield eyes from sun") while L hand is placed on small of back, palm facing out. Change to opp hand position on meas 7 and back to original position on meas 8.