

Drjanovska Racenica

(Bulgaria)

From Bulgaria/Severnjasco. A slow racenica often performed by older villagers. This form is typical of the Balkan Range towns of N.E. Bulgaria.

Pronunciation: DRIAN-of-skah Ru-tch eh-NEEH-tсах

Music: From Yves Moreau, cassette or cd

Meter: 7/8; 2-2-3 or QQS

Formation: Mixed lines, hands in W position facing LOD, weight on L

Steps: Rucenica: can go fwd, back, or sideways starting either foot. Basically it's just a two step@ as in RLR or LRL (QQS) that takes up one measure, but with some stylistic particulars: there is an anticipatory lift (Aah@); first step is down on a somewhat bent knee (Q); second step is either very short or simply a close with weight and pushes up a little on a straightening knee; there is a tendency for weight to be taken somewhat on both feet during this step (Q); and third step is down again onto a bent knee(S).

Style: Bold, fairly large steps, proud and calm: smooth up and down movement

Pattern: Introduction, ABAB, Interlude, ABAB

<u>Meas</u>	Pattern
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1-4 **Introduction:** Alzgrjala e mesecinka. . .@; either no action, or start with music repeating meas 1-4 of the Interlude (below)

Part A, moving in LOD, RLOD

- 1 Moving in LOD, one Rucenica step, RLR, (QQS)
- 2 Repeat previous meas, opp ftwk
- 3 Turning to face center, moving in LOD, step large sideways R; arms extend fwd and down (QQ); cross and step L behind R, arms down (S)
- 4 Continuing to move LOD, step R sideways as arms come up (QQ); heel lift on R as L lifts in front ending facing slightly right of center; arms settle back into W position (S)
- 5 Step L across R in LOD (QQ); pivoting on L with slight heel lift to end facing center or just left of center, swing R around and lift in front of L (S)

1 RLR LRL (2) open 26
2 SWD RLR LRL
3 GRAB GRABE - LIFT L, LIFT R
LIFT L BACK, UP = DOWN
BACK LRL FOR R

- 6 Facing left of center, step R across L in RLOD (QQ); Heel lift and slight pivot on R to face center with small lift of L behind R, left knee turned out somewhat (S)
- 7 quick heel lift or hop on R with another lift of L behind R (Q); step L to L in RLOD as arms extend forward (Q); Cross and step on R behind L moving RLOD, arms coming down (S)
- 8 Large step on L to left, arms begin moving upward (QQ); heel lift on L as arms come back to W position and R lifts in front L; end facing center (S)

Part B, into and out of center, with arm extensions

- 1 Facing and moving center, large R step, leading with heel; both arms extend fwd (QQ); small step (or close with wt) fwd onto L, bending knee and retracting arms back to W position (S)
- 2 Repeat previous meas
- 3 preceding beat one with a quick anticipatory heel lift on L as arms begin slightly fwd and up (Aah@): step fwd R onto a bent knee(s), dipping, and arms come fwd and down; weight tends to be somewhat on both feet on this beat (QQ); small heel lift (or Ahop@) on R as you straighten right knee; arms continue down and back (S)
- 4 Same as previous meas, still moving toward center, but opp ftwk and arms come slowly fwd and up back to W pos
- 5-6 Two Rucenica steps bkwd, RLR, LRL; arms in W pos (QQS,QQS)
- 7-8 Similar to meas 3-4, part 2, except moving and stepping back out of center
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8

Interlude

- 1 A Rucenica step (see above) to the right: step R sideways to right (Q); close with wt L to R (Q); step R in place
- 2 Repeat previous meas, opp ftwk and dir
- 3-4 Repeat two previous meas

Dance Notes by Gary Diggs, 10-12-05,
largely a revision of notes by Yves Moreau