

GALAONA (Gah-lah-OH-nah) - Bulgaria-Vlach

Learned in Bulgaria by Yves Moreau during the fall of 1971. This dance comes from the village of Bojnica, Vidin District, in northwest Bulgaria and is typical of dances done by Vlachs there and in nearby East Serbia. It is related to the Stara Vlajna type.

Meter: 2/4. Formation: Mixed lines. Belt hold. L over R. Face ctr. Style: Knees bent slightly. Steps are fairly small and close to the ground.

Meas      PATTERN

I. Basic ("Vlajna") Pattern

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R to R (1). Close L to R with sharp sliding action, bending L knee with down accent, picking up R sharply (2).
- 2 Repeat pattern of measure 1.
- 3 Step on R to R (1). Pick up L and point it slightly fwd across R (2).
- 4 Step on L straight fwd to ctr (1). Raise R off ground behind L (ct 2).
- 5 Face ctr, step back on R (1). Raise L sharply in front (2).
- 6-7 Reverse pattern of measures 1-2.
- 8 Step on L to L (1). Swing R leg sharply across L. A small hop on the Lft may accompany this action (2).

II. "Chug" Variation

- 1-2 Repeat pattern of measures 1-2, Fig. I.
- 3 Facing slightly R of ctr, step onto R diag fwd (1). Hop on R sharply sending L leg fwd in a kicking fashion not too high off ground (2).
- 4 Still facing diag R, small leap onto Lft (1). Sharp low jump fwd onto both feet bending knees (2).
- 5 Still facing diag R, jump back onto both feet together with slight knee bend (1) small leap onto L turning to face L, twisting R knee up and across L (2).
- 6 Facing ctr, small step on R to R (1). Small hop on R swinging L leg across R close to ground (2).
- 7-8 Repeat pattern of measures 7-8, Fig. I.

Note: No set sequence to dance. Follow directions of person leading line.