

GISHTË PËR GISHTË

(Finger to Finger)

Albanian Men's Dance from Kosovo

Gishtë për Gishtë is from the ethnographic region of Opoja in the Sharr mountains of southwest Kosovo. It is the seventh dance (vallja e shtate) in a sequence of eleven dances performed during weddings. Other dances in the sequence are in 3/4, 7/8, 9/8 and 12/8 meters, and are considered by Albanians to be in "epic" style. This is a more "lyric" dance, incorporating some movements associated with women's dance.

Presented by Janet Reineck / Kolo Festival 1985

Source: Xhemali Berisha and dancers from the villages of Bellobrad and Shajna.

Recording: Field recording from Zhur

Rhythm: 2/4

Formation: Part 1 / open circle CCW in "W" hold with small fingers attached

Part 2 / single file progression CCW

Part 3 / as Part 1

MEAS	CT	FACE	LEFT FOOT	RIGHT FOOT	LEFT ARM	RIGHT ARM	BODY
PART 1							
1	1 J			step LOD	"W" HOLD, SMALL FINGERS CLASPED		
	2 J		step LOD				
2	1 J			step side right			
	2 J		touch toe near right foot				
3	1 J		step back				
	2 J			step back			
4	1 J		step back				
	2 J			touch toe near left foot			
REPEAT 1-4 UNTIL LEADER SIGNALS PART 2					RELEASE FINGER HOLD		

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GISTINÉ PĚR GISTINÉ (page 3)

PART 4 (STEP TOUCHES TOWARD CENTER)						
5	1& J	↑	step back			RESUME FINGER HOLD
	2& J		touch toe in front of right foot			
6	1& J		STEP BACK			
	2& J		touch toe in front of left ft			
7,8 REPEAT MEAS 5,6						
9	1 J		step fwd in squat			
	2 J		touch toe in front of right ft			
10	1 J		step fwd in squat			
	2 J		touch toe in front of left ft			
11,12 REPEAT MEAS 9,10						
13-16 REPEAT MEAS 5-8						
REPEAT PARTS 1-4 FOLLOWING LEADER'S SIGNAL						

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GISTINÉ PĚR GISTINÉ (page 2)

PART 2						
1	1& J		step fwd			
	a J		step momentarily on ball of foot next to right	side left or on small of back	45° flexion in front of chest	
2	J		step fwd			
	1& J		step fwd			
	a J		step momentarily on ball of foot next to left	in front of chest 45° flex	side right or on small of back	
2	J		step fwd			
REPEAT 1-2 UNTIL LEADER SIGNALS PART 3						
PART 3 (TRANSITION)						
1	1& J	↑	step close in front of right	side high, slight flexion	side low, slight flexion	tilted slightly side-right
	a J	↖	momentarily take weight on ball, in place			
2& J	←		step close in front of right			
	a J	↙	momentarily take weight on ball, in place			
REPEAT 3 TIMES CONTINUING 360° CCW ROTATION (MEAS 2-4)						

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