

Gjuševska Râčenica

Bulgaria (Šop)

Gjuševska Râčenica (gyoo-SHEV-skah ruh-cheh-KNEE-tsah) was learned by Yves Moreau in Sofia during the summer of 1966 from Nasko Vassilev, director of a dance group from the village of Gjuševo on the Bulgarian-Serbian border near Kjustendil. The dance is related to others of southern Šop, including Kjustendilska Râčenica, Kopčeto, and Radomirsko. It was taught by Yves Moreau at the 1968 and 1983 Kolo Festivals.

Record: XOPO X-318-B (45 rpm)

Rhythm: Meter: 7/16 = 2/16+2/16+3/16, counted here as 1,2,3 or Q,Q,S.

Formation: Short lines, mixed or segregated, facing RLOD with belt hold or hands joined down in V-pos.

Styling: The Šop people are very proud by nature. Although their dance movements are firm and sharp, the dances retain a somewhat heavy character. The upper body is upright straight most of the time, but there are occasional bends. Head movements often accompany the intricate footwork.

Measures	7/16 meter	Pattern
----------	------------	---------

INTRODUCTION none.

I. TRAVELING IN LOD

- 1 Facing RLOD, hop on L while moving R leg in a reverse bicycling motion (ct 1); step bkwd onto R (ct 2); step bkwd onto L (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Turning to face ctr, step to R on R (ct 1); step on L in front of R (ct 2); small step on R to R (ct 3).
- 4 Still facing ctr, step on L ft behind R (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2); step on L in front of R (ct 3).
- 5 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3).
- 6 Hop on R, bringing L leg, with knee bent, fwd across R in a CW motion (ct 1); step L, R in place (cts 2,3).
- 7 Repeat meas 6.
- 8 While turning to face RLOD, step L, R in place (cts 1,2); take a small step on L in RLOD with a marked knee bend (ct 3).
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8, except that meas 16 is danced facing center.

II. TOUCH AND CROSS WITH BEND. MOVING FORWARD AND BACKWARD

- 1 Facing ctr, bounce twice on L ft, touching ball of R ft slightly R and fwd (cts 1,2); step sharply onto R ft across in front of L with marked knee bend (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, but step and move bkwd.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8. End facing slightly R of ctr with R ft next to L calf.

III. SIDE KICKS AND SCISSORS

- 1 Hopping on L and raising R knee, kick R ft fwd R while leaning slightly away from kicking ft (cts 1-2); hop on L, bending R knee and bringing R ft behind L calf (ct 3).
- 2 Turning to face slightly L of ctr, step R,L in place (cts 1-2); step on R across in front of L with marked knee bend (ct 3).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-7 Repeat meas 1-3.
- 8 Step L, R, L in place to end facing ctr (cts 1-3).
- 9 Small step on R to R (ct 1); step on L in front of R (ct 2); step on R in place (ct 3).
- 10 Repeat meas 9 with opp ftwk.
- 11 Large step fwd on R (cts 1-2); hop on R, raising L leg with bent knee fwd and high across R (ct 3).
- 12 Repeat meas 11 with opp ftwk.
- 13-14 Repeat meas 9-10.
- 15 With upper body bent fwd, wt on L ft and R ft extended low fwd, dance three sharp, low scissors steps, R,L,R (cts 1-3).
- 16 Repeat meas 15 with opposite ftwk.

IV. HEEL TOUCH. CROSS STEPS. AND MOVE BACKWARD

- 1 Facing ctr, hop on L, simultaneously touching R heel diag R fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2); hop on L, bringing R ft up in front of L shin (ct 3).
- 2 Hop on L (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2); step sharply onto L in front of R (ct 3).
- 3 Step on R slightly behind L (ct 1); step on L to L (ct 2); step onto R in front of L (ct 3).
- 4-6 Repeat meas 1-3 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 7 Repeat meas 1.
- 8 Bounce three times in place on both ft (cts 1,2,3).
- 9-12 Repeat Figure II, meas 5-8.
- 13-15 Repeat meas 1-3, but end facing RLOD.
- 16 Facing RLOD, bounce three times with ft together.

SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written three times; then dance Figure I once.