

1968 SANTA BARBARA FOLK DANCE CONFERENCE

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HUTZULSKI ARKON
(Ukraine)

- SOURCE:** This fast version of the Arkon is done by the Hutzuls in the Carpathian Mountains. There seems to be as many versions as there are Hutzuls. I have seen four or five in Canada, and in a couple of the books I have found, there are about 10 more, and all different. These all have the same general structure but the sequencing and types of steps vary. This dance was done by the men, and I therefore could never do it. But with the help of my father and a couple of books, I have described a version that a man called "Chootro" taught, and which he collected in the Ukraine in about 1925.
- MUSIC:** 2/4 time. Ethnic Folkways Library, FE 4535-B, Band 2
- STEPS:** ARKON STEP (4 meas.) Meas 1, Step to R with R ft (head straight) (Ct 1), Step behind R with L (head straight) (ct 2); Meas 2, Step to R with R ft (ct 1), Swing L ft across front of R ft (no hop) head turns R (ct 1); Meas 3, Step to L with L ft (ct 1), Swing R ft across front of L ft (no hop) head turns L (ct 2).
- ZMINE (2 meas.) Can start with R or L ft.
Meas 1- Step across R (to R side) with L ft (ct 1), Step across front of L (to L side) with R ft (ct 2.); Meas 2-Bring L ft up behind R and put weight on L (1), Swing R ft around to either;(beside L if next step starts with L or behind L if next step starts with R) (ct 2).
- PIDBIVKA (2 meas.) Meas 1- Jump to R ft, leave L in air slightly to the rear of R (ct 1), Hold (ct 2); Meas 2- Bring R and L together with click (ct 1), Land on L (ct 2)
- PIDKIVKA: (1 beat) One foot is in the air slightly in front of the other, knee is straight. On the beat the feet are brought together with a click (slap)
- SVERDLOK: (1 meas) Meas 1- Hop on L, at same time bring R knee across to L, R instep behind L knee (ct 1), Hop on L, open R knee to R side (ct 2)
- PIDSKOK: (1 meas) Lift R ft and hop on L (ct 1), Step on R ft and shift wt on R (e), Step on L ft and shift wt on L (ct &), Hold (Ct a)
- PRECID With movement to the R, L or Front (2 meas.) Meas 1- Down on both feet, knees together (ct 1), 1/2 up, R ft up (ct 2); Meas 2-Leap to R ft, R ft up with heel up in back (ct 1), Feet together, ~~or coming together~~ (ct 2)
- PRECID WITH JUMP: (2 meas.) Meas 1- Jump (land), knees together (ct 1), Tough heels to behind (ct 2); Meas 2-Land & Precid (down) (ct 1), L ft up, R on ground (ct 2)

continued...

PATTERN

Measures FIGURE I

- 1-24 PIDSOK, start with R ft lifting, body slightly back, R hand with ax held high, L hand is a fist at small of back or thumb hooked to back of belt. (On meas 24, leader calls "Hey do Kola" and leads into circle.)

FIGURE II

- 1 Feet come together with a slap of hands to shoulders L over (behind) neighbors R
- 2 Step to R with R ft (parallel)
- 3 Close to R ft with L ft
- 4-11 Continuè (on Meas 11, leader calls "Arkon"
- 12 Weight on L, stamp R ft on floor

FIGURE III

- 1-21 7 basic Arkon steps with R ft
- 22-24 3 foot stamps

FIGURE IV

- 1-2 Arkon start R ft (1st 2 meas)
- 3-4 Zmine start L across
- 5-6 Arkon start R ft (1st 2 meas)
- 7-8 Zmine start L across with R leg down at end
- 9-10 Zmine start L across R to back of L leg
- 11-12 Clock-wise turn, one big stamp, and two small with R ft

FIGURE V

- 1-2 Pidbivka, jump land on R (meas 1), jump hit L and R land on L (meas 2)
- 3 Jump to R ft to R, L in or at L (ct 1), Pidkivka to L, land on R (ct 2).
- 4 Pidkivka to L, land on R (ct 1), Stamp L together to R (ct 2)
- 4-8 Repeat 1-4
- 9-10 Pidbivka, jump land on R, jump jot L and R, land on L ft. (On beat 2 of Meas 10, bring R ft to the front.)
- 11 Two Pidkivka's to R
- 12 Bring ft together (ct 1), Hold (Ct 2)

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13-24 Four Arkon steps

FIGURE VI

1-2 Zmine with R ft crossing

3-4 Precid with movement oto the R side

5-8 Repeat 1-4

9-10 Zmine

11 Straight Precid with R ft, up on Beat 2

12 Stamp on Beat 1 (On Meas 12, leader calls "Batko Spet")

FIGURE VII

1-12 Four 7 Arkon steps head down

13-16 Four stamps (On meas 16 leader calls "Balko Stav")

REPEAT FIGURE II (12 measures)

FIGURE VIII

1 Sverdlok

2 Feet together on floor (ct 1), Rest (ct 2)

3-16 Repeat Meas 1 & 2 (8 Sverdlok's)

17-22 2 Arkon steps (On meas 22, step down with L ft and bring R to it)

23-24 Repeat Meas 1-2

FIGURE IX

1-10 Do same as Meas 1-10. of FIG VI

11 Jump to L ft straight out of circle (Ct 1), Jump to R ft facing center of circle (i. e. turn around) (ct 2)

12 Step to L ft to L side (ct 1), Bring R ft to L and transfer wt (ct 2)

FIGURE X

1-12 4 Arkon steps

FIGURE XI

1-10 5 Precid's moving to the side (see Meas 3-4, FIG VI)

11 Jump to R ft bringing L across and behind (ct 1), Hold (ct 2)

12 Same as Meas 11, only to the L

continued...

Hutzulski Arkon -4

13-24 Fig XI (continued)
4 Arkon steps

FIGURE XII

1-4 2 Precid with jump, 2 meas for each
5-6 Do first 2 meas of Arkon
7-8 Zmine
9-10 Precid with jump
11 Sverdlok
12 Bring R ft down beside L (ct 1) Rest (ct 2)
13-24 Repeat Meas 1-12
2 Arkon steps, 2 Sverdlok's, 2 Arkon Steps (16 measures)

FIGURE XIII

1-3 Arkon
4 Pidkivka to R ft (ct 1), Start Arkon (ct 2) To end at Beat 1 of Meas 7
7 Pidkivka (ct 2)
8 Pidkivka (ct 1), Start Arkon to end on Ct 1 of Meas 11
11 Pidkivka (ct 2)
12 Pidkivka (ct 1), Pidkivka (ct 2)
13-15 Arkon
16-17 4 Pidkivka's
18-20 Arkon
21-22 4 Pidkivka's
23-24 Break and back into line
25-36 Pidckoks backing into line
REPEAT FIGURE VIII (24 meas)

FIGURE XV

1-11 Precid moving to front (See Meas 3-4, FIG VI)
12 Stamp R ft next to L with R hand and ax up, L on neighbor's shohlder(ct 1),
Rest (ct 2) FIGURE XVI (36 meas) Off stage Pidkivkas