

Lenka

Slavonija, Croatia

Slavonija (Slavonia) is the richest agricultural region (known as the "bread basket") in Croatia. For this reason, folk traditions have remained unchanged for centuries. The wealth of this region is reflected in the dances, songs and costumes. Most of the dances in Slavonija surround the musicians, who are in the center of a circle. Musical accompaniment features the wooden flute (dvojnica), bagpipe (gajde) and tambura (samica), or a full tambura orchestra. Slavonian people dance to celebrate any occasion - weddings, harvest, church celebrations, or any other daily occurrence that merits a celebration.

The dance was learned by Željko Jergan in 1987 from the village group Bošnjaci.

TRANSLATION: Girl's name

PRONUNCIATION: LEHN-kah

CD: "Sviraj Svirče Drmeša" by Skitnice, track # 17

FORMATION: M and W in a circle facing center. The most common formation is front basket hold (R over L). Escort position is also used: R hand in front of waist with palm up (as if holding something), L hand grasps neighbor's R arm just above the elbow.

STEPS: Double Drmeš to L:

Meas 1: Moving side L - step L to L with knees bent slightly (down) (ct 1); close R beside L and bounce 2 times on both feet (up-up) (cts 2,&). (S,Q,Q)

Meas 2: Step L to L with knees bent slightly (ct 1); bounce on L as R lifts low toward L and slightly forward (ct 2).

When moving to R use opposite footwork.

Single Drmeš to L:

Meas 1: Moving side L - step L to L with knees bent slightly (down) (ct 1); close R beside L and bounce 2 times on both feet (up-up) (cts 2,&). (S,Q,Q)

When moving to R use opposite footwork.

STYLE: The drmeš (shaking dance) is done flat-footed with small steps and movements.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 4 meas (2 slow beats + 3 faster beats)

A FIG. I: (Instrumental)

1-8 Facing center - do 4 double drmeš, L,R,L,R.

B

- 9 Step L on L with knees bent slightly (ct 1); bounce on L as R lifts slightly fwd (ct 2).
- 10-12 Repeat meas 9, alternating ftwk, 3 more times. (4 times in all)
- 13-14 Stamp L beside R, 3 times (cts 1-2, 1); hold (ct 2).
- 15-16 Clap hands, 3 times, at chest ht (cts 1-2, 1); hold (ct 2).

A

FIG. II: (Vocal)

- 1-3 Facing ctr and moving sdwd to L - do 3 single drmeš
- 4 Step L to L with bounce (ct 1); bounce on L as R lifts slightly fwd (ct 2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, with opp ftwk. (3 single drmeš to R + step-lift)

B

- 9 Step L to L with bounce (ct 1); bounce on L as R lifts slightly fwd (ct 2).
- 10-12 Repeat meas 9, alternating ftwk, 3 more times. (4 in all)
- 13-16 Repeat Fig. I, meas 13-16. (Stamp L 3x, clap 3x)

Pattern: Introduction

Fig. 1 & Fig. 2 & Fig. 1 – 3 times!

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Kaži mi kaži, 'ko svira u gajde? /2x
Gajde svira čiča Joza, a kraj njega igra koza.

Šta će meni mamu šlingana rubina?
Da je meni mamu kakav bečarina!
Lenka, Lenka, Lenka, Lenka, hop, hop, hop, sijeno, slama, zob.

Kaži mi kaži 'ko voli gajdaša? /2x
Njega voli seka Kera, ona sive koze tjera, tra la la, tra la la

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Dance notes by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw, 11-01

Presented by Željko Jergan.

