

# Maško Kočansko oro

(Macedonia)

This is a Krsteno (crossing)-type dance from the Rom (gypsy community) of Kocani in Eastern Macedonia. It can be danced in a 10-meas or 9-meas structure, which is of particular interest to me. The source is Zahira Ramadanov at the 1998 Balkan Music and Dance Camp in Ramblewood, Md.

PRONUNCIATION: MAHSH-koh koh-CHAHN-skoh OH-roh

MUSIC: Kotansky 1999 Camp Tape; Laguna Folkdancers Festival 2006 CD

RHYTHM: 7/16, counted as 1 2 3 (SQQ).

FORMATION: Short lines in T-pos or W-pos.

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METER: 7/16

PATTERN

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Meas

## INTRODUCTION

### BASIC

- 1 With wt on R, lift L (thigh parallel to ground) up in front and bounce on R ft (ct 1); repeat bounce on R (ct 2); step slightly to L on L (ct 3).
- 2 Step on R across in front of L (ct 1); bounce on R, lifting L ft up slightly in back (ct 2); step back on L in place (ct 3).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 7 Turning to face slightly R of ctr, bounce on L, bringing R ft and knee up and in front (ct 1); bounce on L again (ct 2); step fwd on R (ct 3).
- 8 Step fwd on L across in front of R (ct 1); bounce on L and bring R ft fwd (ct 2); step fwd on R (ct 3).
- 9-10 Repeat meas 8, but turn to face ctr on ct 3 of meas 10.

Note: This is the common 10-meas form, but I have been teaching a shortened 9-meas form which omits meas 10 and turns to face ctr on ct 3 of meas 9. Zahir often mixed the 10- and 9-meas but did the 9-meas often enough to merit doing the dance in this length. I will elaborate on my theories concerning this during the instruction of the dance.

### VARIATION I

Based on a 9-meas structure. The variations begin with the 9th meas and continue into meas 1 and, in Variation II, into meas 2.

- 9 Step fwd on L (ct 1); turning to face ctr, leap onto R to R (ct 2); step on L across behind R (ct 3).
- 1 Step on R to R (ct 1); lift on R, bringing L up in front (ct 2); step on L to L (ct 3).
- 2-8 Repeat Basic, meas 2-8.

### VARIATION II

- 9 Repeat Var I, meas 9.
- 1 Leap onto R to R, bringing L ft sharply across in front of R shin (ct 1); leap onto L in place bringing R ft sharply across and in front of L shin (ct 2); leap onto R in place, bringing L ft sharply across in front of R shin (ct 3).
- 3-8 Repeat Basic, meas 3-8.