

# Milica

(Croatia and Serbia)

The trio dance Milica (a girl's name) became popular in Croatian and Serbian communities in the U.E. some time in the 1930s. According to the old-time tamburitza players (including members of the Banat Orchestra heard on the record listed below), the song whose melody accompanies the dance was a favorite among Croatian and Serbian immigrants to the U.S. many years before that, as early as the turn of this century.

Milica's exact origins are unknown. Variants of the dance have been recorded in numerous places in Croatia and Vojvodina (Serbia), and it is reported to have been popularized there by tamburitza orchestras in the period between World Wars I and II. It is described here as learned and danced by Dick Crum at Croatian and Serbian affairs in Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cleveland, and other eastern cities in the 1950s.

Pronunciation: MEE-lee-tsah

Music: 2/4 meter

Folk Dancer MH 1005, Milica

Formation: Trios scattered anywhere on the dance floor. Usually one M with two W, one on either side of him, all facing the same direction. His hands are around the back of their waists, holding their outside hands at their outside hips. Each W places the hand nearest the M on his nearest shldr. The formation just described is the oldest, basic form. It often happened, however, that more than three dancers (anywhere from four or five or even more!) would form one line and do the same steps as in the trio form.

## Meas

## Pattern

### I. HOP-STEP-STEPS FORWARD

1 All dancers moving straight fwd, hop on L, bringing R ft slightly fwd low (ct 1); step fwd on R (ct &); close L fwd beside R, taking wt on L (ct 2).

2-4 Repeat meas 1 three more times (total of four).

Note: A common variation of Part I consisted of the group (trio or line) pivoting, either in place or moving fwd, using the same ftwk described above. The pivot could be a full turn or more, either CW or CCW.

### II. BASIC KOLO STEP RIGHT AND LEFT

1 Low hop on L in place or moving very slightly R (ct 1); step sdwd (flat) on R (ct &); close L beside R, taking wt on L (ct 2).

2 Short step sdwd on R (ct 1); low hop on R in place (ct 2).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

Original notes by Dick Crum

Presented by Dick Crum

Words on next page.

## Milica—continued

:There are many different lyrics to the song whose tune accompanies the dance Milica. Here are the verses sung by the Banat Orchestra on the Folk Dancer record listed above:

Milica je uranila i krevet je mamestila  
/: pa čeka svoga dragana. :/

Milica got up early and made her bed,  
then waited for her sweetheart.

Milica je večerala i na sokak istrčala,  
bez marame i bez kecelje,  
da dočeka svoga dragana.

Milica ate supper and hurried out onto the street,  
without kerchief and without apron,  
to wait for her sweetheart.

Mati viče, mati kara: "Ajde kudi, pile moje,  
/: večeraj, lolu ne čekaj!" :/

Her mother yelled and scolded her, "Come home, my dear,  
eat your supper and don't wait for that boyfriend of yours.

Milica je lepo date, zašto j' momci ne ljubite?  
/: Haj, Milica, jedinica! :/

Milica's a pretty child, why don't you fellows love her?  
Oh, Milica, mother's one-and-only!