

OSMICA (Ohs-MEEH-Tsah) Bulgaria

Learned by Yves Moreau, fall 1971, from village dance group in Marcevo, Mihajlovgrad District in N.W. Bulgaria. This dance contains the uncommon mixture of the two most popular Bulgarian dance types: The "Pravo" and the "Racenica". The favorite instruments of musicians in N.W. Bulgaria are the clarinet, fiddle and drum. One seldom sees gajda, gadulka and kaval. This is most probably due to the strong influence from nearby Romania.

Meter: Mixture of 2/4 & 7/16 (8 meas. of each). **Formation:** Short lines - about 8 people - mixed or segregated. Back basket hold, R arm under, L arm over. Face ctr. Wt on L ft.

Style: Knees bent slightly. Steps are small. Upper part of body is erect.

Meas. Description NOTE: No introduction

I. "PRAVO" - 2/4 meter.

- 1 Moving straight back, step on R ft (ct 1) step back on L (ct 2)
- 2 Step back on R (ct 1) raising L knee slightly, a light kicking action fwd with L ft (ct 2)
- 3 Step sideways L on L (ct 1) step on R in back of L (ct 2)
- 4 Step on L to L (ct 1) raising R knee slightly, a light kicking action fwd with R ft (ct 2)
- 5-6 Repeat pattern of meas 3-4 reversing direction & ftwork.
- 7-8 Repeat pattern of meas 3-4, exactly.

II. "RACENICA" - 7/16 meter.

Description of the "Racenica" step: Wt on L ft, small leap fwd onto ball of R ft (ct 1) two small running steps fwd L,R (cts 2,3)

- 1-4 Four "racenica" steps moving fwd towards ctr.
- 5-7 Three "racenica" steps in place (may also be done with slight side motion R-L-R)

Note: *There is no 8th measure of music. After the 7th "racenica" step there is a sharp stamp with the L ft next to the R. The music matches this with a sudden pause & drumbeat. The dance then starts again from the "Pravo" pattern but the L ft moves back & the "Pravo" patterns are reversed. The next time around, it will be back on the other foot etc. *There is no wt on the stamp after the 7th meas.

Presented by Yves Moreau - Description by Yves Moreau

FLORICICA (Floh-reeh-CHEEH-kah) Bulgaria - WT YM-002 B, band 2

Learned by Yves Moreau, fall 1971 from village dance group in Rabrovo, Vidin District, N.W. Bulgaria. Floricica is a Vlach dance. The Vlachs originally came to Bulgaria from Romania. The Vlachs were for a long time nomadic people who have now settled primarily in Northern Greece, Macedonia, N.E. Serbia and along the Danube in Bulgaria. Their language & folklore are a mixture of Romanian & local elements. Floricica is an unusual example of a dance performed entirely in place.

Meter: 2/4 **Formation:** Short lines - about 8 people - mixed or segregated. Belt hold. L over R. Face ctr. Wt on L ft. Often, the two men at both ends of the line hold a wooden cane in their free hand.

Style: Knees bent slightly. Steps are quite small. Stamps are sharp & low as in Romanian dances.

Meas. Description Note: *No introduction

- 1 Small hop on L ft, simultaneously bringing R knee up alongside L leg & twisted to L (ct 1) Facing ctr, small stamp with R ft, no wt next to L (ct 1&2) small sharp step on R facing slightly R (ct 2)
- 2 Repeat pattern of meas 1, reversing direction & ftwork
- 3-6 Repeat pattern of meas 1-2
- 7 Small hop on L ft, simultaneously swinging R leg sharply across in front of L (ct 1) small step in place on R (ct 2)
- 8 Small hop in place on R ft, simultaneously sending L leg fwd (ct 1) step on L across R (ct 2)
- 9 Small step back on R (ct 1) shift wt fwd onto L ft (ct 2)
- 10-11 Repeat pattern of meas 7-8.

Presented by Yves Moreau - Description by Yves Moreau