

Sedi Donka

Bulgaria

Sedi Donka originates in the area of Thrace around the towns of Pazardzik and Plovdiv in south-central Bulgaria. The name of the dance derives from the first line of the song, "Sedi Donka na dyukyanche" (Donka is sitting in her shop). Some twenty variations of the dance exist in this region. Dick Crum originally taught Fig I and Fig II (Fig IV is a repeat of Fig II) of this dance to folk dancers in the United States. Fig III was added later and is as danced in southern California.

TRANSLATION: Donka is sitting

PRONUNCIATION: SEH-dee DOHN-kah

MUSIC: Xopo (LP) X-LP-4, side 1, band 3; Bruno (LP) BR 50163, side A, band 6 "Horo"; Monitor (LP) MF 384, side 2, band 3 "Horo of Sofia"; Bay Records (LP) 205, side 2, band 4; Du-Tam (45rpm) 1001 B; Geisler, Richard. "Sedi Donka" (sheet music), The Bulgarian Collection, The Village & Early Music Society, 15181 Ballantree Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95949-7633.

METER/RHYTHM: 7/16 + 11/16. The music is written in a combination of two meas of 7/16 and one meas of 11/16 meter. The rhythm is SLOW-quick-quick, SLOW-quick-quick, quick-quick-SLOW-quick-quick (3-2- 2 = 7, 3-2-2 = 7, 2-2-3-2-2 = 11) for a total of 11 accented beats and will be counted below as 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3-4-5.

FORMATION: Short lines (5-6 dancers) of mixed M and W holding belts ("na lesa") in "X" pos, R arm under.

STEPS/STYLE: CHUG: Sharp low scooting jump.
The dance has a moderately heavy quality with the upper body straight and proud.

PATTERN

Meas

INTRODUCTION - None.

I. TO SIDE WITH BOUNCES

- 1 Step R swd (ct 1); hop R (ct 2); step L across in front of R (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1.
- 3 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct 2); step R swd (ct 3); closing L to R, bounce twice on both with wt predominantly on R (cts 4,5).
- 4-6 Repeat action of meas 1-3 to L with opp ftwk.
- 7-12 Repeat action of meas 1-6.

II. TO CTR WITH TAPS

- 1 Step R fwd (ct 1); hop R (ct 2); step L fwd (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1.
- 3 Step R fwd (ct 1); small step L fwd (ct 2); tap R heel lightly next to L (ct 3); small leap R in place (ct 4); tap L heel lightly next to R (ct 5).
- 4-6 Reverse action of meas 1-3 bwd with opp ftwk.
- 7-12 Repeat action of meas 1-6.

III. TO R WITH TAPS AND TO L WITH SCISSORS

- 1 With ft parallel and wt evenly distributed, "chug" fwd with both ft (ct 1); hop R (ct 2); step L across in front of R (ct 3).
- 2 Step R swd (ct 1); hop R (ct 2); step L across in front of R (ct 3).
- 3 Step R swd (ct 1); step L in back of R (ct 2); tap R heel lightly next to L (ct 3); small leap R in place (ct 4); tap L heel lightly next to R (ct 5).
- 4-5 Repeat action of meas 4-5, Fig I.
- 6 Step L swd (ct 1); step R across in back of L (ct 2); step L swd, extending R ft low fwd (ct 3); step R in place, extending L ft low fwd (ct 4); step L in place, extending R low fwd (ct 5).
- 7-12 Repeat action of meas 1-6.

IV. TO CTR WITH TAPS

- 1-12 Repeat action of meas 1-12, Fig II.

Repeat entire dance from beg.

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Camp Hess Kramer Institute
October 29 – 31, 2004