

ŠROTEŠ

(SHROH'-TESH)

SOURCE: Learned by Dick Crum from Ivan Ivančan, director, Joža Vlanovič Folk Dance Group, Zagreb

MUSIC: MH 3021-B, The Duquesne University Tamburitzans. No piano music published.

FORMATION: Couples. See under part I and part II for positioning.

Note: This dance is from the Zagorje-Prigorje area of Croatia, where the style is rather stiff and rustic. Be careful not to move FWD during the course of part I - the "Stamp-chugs" are all done completely in place. Above all, do not do a regular polka step in part II.

STEP: "Zagorje Polka Step". This step occurs in part II, done as follows:

(Man's step given, woman uses opposite footwork).

Ct 1 — fall on full R ft, bending knee slightly.

Ct & — Fall on full L Ft, about 6 inches L of R ft, again bending knee slightly.

Ct 2 — fall on full R ft, with a deeper, more accented bend of knee than on first two steps.

Ct & — hold.

The whole step is now repeated beginning with the L ft. The step itself is very rough, "cloddy", in a crude peasant style. There is not even a suggestion of a hop anywhere in it, nor does one foot ever "close" to the other. During the actual dance, couples are in shoulder-waist position for this step, and move freely about the floor, turning continuously clockwise.

Meas. Part I

Couples stand side by side, scattered about floor, W is on M's R. Inside hands joined, free hands on own hip. During part I, M's and W's steps are identically the same.

1 Ct 1 — stamp fwd on full R ft.

Ct & — Chug on R ft back to original place, bringing L ft a bit fwd at the same time.

Ct 2 — Stamp fwd on full L ft.

Ct & — Chug on L ft back to original place, bringing R ft a bit fwd at the same time.

2 Same as meas. 1.

3 Ct 1 — Step sideways to R with R ft. Ct & — Close L ft to R ft, taking weight on L ft.

Ct 2 — Steps sideways to R with R ft. Ct & — lift (almost a hop) on R ft.

4 Same as meas. 3, but mowing L with opposite footwork.

5-7 Same as meas. 1-3.

8 M takes three steps L—R—L to stand in front of W, facing her. W meantime steps L—R—L—R (four steps) in place, in preparation for part II.

Part II

9-14 Six "Zagorje polka steps", in shoulder-waist position, M beginning with R ft, W beginning with L ft. Turn as a couple CW, moving freely around floor.

15-16 Stop turning, and facing each other squarley, still in shoulder-waist position, lower heels 7 times in place. This rapid bounce is tricky, but can be mastered if you remember to keep knees fairly stiff, and never let toes leave the floor.

17-24 Same as meas. 9-16.

After finishing part II, use the pause in the music to ~~resume position~~ ~~formation~~, and begin the dance all over