

SUKCIUS (The Turner)

Circle with sets of fours -- Partner

Many of Lithuania's old traditional dances are of remote origin and have little or no trace of Slavic influence. Sukcius, a dance from the Dzukija, shows a close resemblance to the Balkan Horras, and may support the claim of certain savants that Greece and Asia Minor were Lithuanians' ancient habitat.

FIGURE I

FORMATION: A circle, all facing center, boy with his partner to his right. All boys join hands in back of the girls; girls join hands in back of the boys.

- Meas. 1: Step to R side with R foot (1); step with L foot across in front of R (2).  
Meas. 2: Step right with R foot (1), swing L diagonally forward in front of R (2).  
Meas. 3-4: Same beginning with L foot moving left.  
Meas. 5-8 and repeat: Grapevine Step left: Step R foot in back of L (1); step L foot to the left (and); step R foot in front of L (2); step L foot to the left (and).  
(The movement is rapid and should be practiced.) Continue for the remainder of the eight measures.

FIGURE II

FORMATION: The circle breaks up into couples with boys toward the center. Inside hands remain behind partners' backs and are joined with partners' free hands.

- Meas. 1-4: Same as in Figure I, first moving out from center, then toward center.  
Meas. 5-8 (and repeat): In same position couples jump up and down on both feet, turning in place, boy backward, girl forward.

FIGURE III

FORMATION: Groups of two couples in small inter-locked circles (boys join hands and girls join hands as in Fig. I).

- Meas. 1-4: Same as Fig. 1 except instead of swinging foot, stamp it forward.  
Meas. 5-8 (and repeat): Jump as in Figure II (in fours), circling to left. Continue at will.

Neighbor, have you rye to sow?  
To the field you soon will go. )  
Who will plant my rye for me? ) Twice  
Dark and bare my field will be.

(cont. on next page)

SUKCIUS (cont)

Green already are their fields,  
They will gather goodly yields. ) Twice  
But my field is dark and bare, )  
No one gives it friendly care.

Brightly sanded is your home, \*  
In your fields the richest loan.) Twice  
My old home will fall apart, )  
From beginning I must start.

\*Note: To keep the home clean, it is the custom to  
sprinkle the ground with golden sand. This song is  
in the Dzuku dialect.