

Uskovo oro

(Macedonia)

Gypsy dance from Macedonia – from the towns of Bitola and Prilep. This is a typical Gypsy dance from the south of Macedonia. In the Gypsy communities of the South, in the towns of Prilep and Bitola, people have a preference for slow dances. A typical phenomena in these slow dances is “leaving out” steps and dance a hold and a touch instead.

Pronunciation: OOS-koh-voh OH-ROH

CD: CD 1104/08 #15

Rhythm: 7/8, counted as S – L – L – L or 1 1-2 1-2 1-2 or 1, 2, 3, 4.

A large part of the music is played in such a way that one could hear the 7/8 with the longer accent on the end of the measure. Nevertheless the steps stay the same.

Formation: Open line or circle (of mostly women), face center, hands joined in W-pos (Fig I) and in V-pos (Fig II), R-foot free.

Styling: Very slow and syncopated movements.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
-------------	----------------

2 meas	<u>INTRODUCTION</u> . No action.
--------	----------------------------------

FIGURE I

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1 | Bounce on L (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct 2); step on L in front of R (ct 3); step back on R in place (ct 4). |
| 2 | Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk. |
| 3-4 | Repeat meas 1-2. |
| 5 | Facing “half-right,” bounce on L (ct 1); step on R in LOD (ct 2); bounce on R (ct 3); step on L, turning to face ctr (ct 4). |

Variation I: Replace the crossing steps of cts 3-4 of the meas 2 and 4 by a hold or a touch.

Variation II: Leave out the crossing steps in meas 1 and 3 as well.

FIGURE II

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1-4 | Repeat Fig I, meas 1-4. |
| 5 | Bounce on L and face (half) LOD (ct 1); step on R in LOD (ct 2); step on L (ct 3); step on R (ct 4). |
| 6 | Leap onto L (ct 1); step on R, turning to face ctr (ct 2); step on L across in front of R (ct 3); step on R back in place (ct 4). |

Presented by Paul Mulders