

ZAPLET

Notes by Dick Crum for *ŽviLA TAMBURA '93*

One of the oldest and most beloved dances in the old-time repertory, *Zaplet* ('twisted around') was regularly done in the 1950's in most eastern kolo-dancing communities.

Old-timers knew lyrics to the melody, but these were rarely passed on to the U.S.-born generation, and I never heard anyone actually sing them during the dance. Often-quoted samples of these lyrics are:

*Kruške, jabuke, šljive,
mene voli Ive,
a ja Iva neću,
tražim bolju sreću.*

Pears, apples, plums,
Ive ["Johnnie"] is in love with me,
but I don't want Ive,
I'm looking for better fortune.

*Kruške, jabuke, grožđe,
mene voli Đorđe,
a ja Đorđa neću,
za drugim umreću.*

Pears, apples, grapes,
George is in love with me,
but I don't want George,
there's another fellow I'm dying for.

DESCRIPTION OF DANCE

Formation Open circle or chain of dancers, male and female, hands joined and held down at sides ("V" position)

Meter 2/4

Part 1 - Step-hops traveling to the right

Facing slightly right of center and moving to right (counterclockwise around):

Meas 1 ct 1 Step Rft forward in this direction.
ct 2 Hop on Rft forward in this direction.

Meas 2 ct 1 Continuing in this direction, step Lft forward.
ct 2 Hop on Lft forward in this direction.

Meas 3 ct 1 Continuing in this direction, step Rft forward.
ct 2 Hop on Rft forward in this direction, turning to face center.

Part 2 - Malo kolo steps

Any of the variants of the *Malo kolo step*, starting the pattern moving left (i.e., clockwise around) can be used; by way of illustration, the simple "walking" *Malo kolo step*, is given here.

- Meas 4 ct 1 Facing center, step Lft sideward to L.
 ct 2 Close Rft beside Lft, taking weight on Rft.
- Meas 5 ct 1 Step Lft sideward to L.
 ct 2 Close Rft beside Lft without taking weight on Rft; or bring Rft a bit forward low in air.
- Meas 6 ct 1 Step Rft sideward to R.
 ct 2 Close Lft beside Rft, taking weight on Lft.
- Meas 7 ct 1 Step Rft sideward to R.
 ct 2 Close Lft beside Rft without taking weight on Lft; or bring Lft a bit forward low in air.
- Meas 8 ct 1 Step Lft sideward to L.
 ct 2 Close Rft beside Lft, taking weight on Rft.
- Meas 9 ct 1 Step Lft sideward to L.
 ct 2 Close Rft beside Lft without taking weight on Rft; or bring Rft a bit forward low in air; turn to face slightly right of center in preparation for repeat of the dance.