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FOLK DANCE SCENE is published to educate its readers concerning the folk dance, music, costume, customs, lore, and culture of the peoples of the world. It is also designed to inform them of the opportunities to experience folk dance and culture in Southern California and elsewhere. In addition, it advises readers as to major developments in the Folk dance Federation of California, South, of which this is the official publication.

Views expressed in SCENE are solely the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the magazine or the Federation. Neither the magazine nor the Federation assumes responsibility for the accuracy of dates, locations, or other information sent in. The Editors have the right to edit and modify all submissions.

MANUSCRIPTS & NOTICES. The Editors will attempt to include all news-worthy items which are consistent with the policy of the magazine. News items should reach the Editors by 5 weeks before the month of publication for inclusion. Potential authors of feature articles should correspond with the editors prior to submitting their manuscripts.

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MEMBERSHIP. To join the Folk Dance Federation of California, South, one may either affiliate with a member club or join directly as an associate member by contacting the Director of Membership.

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH OFFICERS

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Steve Himel

Calendar

Note: Federation events are in bold type *** Call to confirm all events

NOVEMBER

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- 1-3 Camp Hess Kramer, "All Camp Review" Institute. Teachers: Joyce Clyde, Loui Tucker, Beverly Barr. Info: (310) 202-6166
- 1-3 Dance & Recreation Retreat at Highland Springs Resort. Sponsored by Tuesday Gypsies. Info: (310) 390-1069
- 1-3 Asilomar Weekend Workshop & Ball, sponsored by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Teachers Eileen Aaron, Elain Brunken, Bruce Herbold, robert McOwen, Obertdan Otto & Elma See. Music by Barbara McOwen & Andrew Imbie, Fiddlesticks & Ivory. Info: Sue Anderson, (415) 327-0762.

Day of the Dead - Dia de los Muertos Celebration. Music, dance, food at Andre's Pico Adobe House, 10940 Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills. Noon-8 p.m. FREE. Info: (818) 344-7017

- Sabri Brothers, concert of Pakistan's Qawwals, Islam's musical Sufi's. Wadsworth Theater, L.A. 8 p.m. Info: (310) 825-2101
- 8 Maria Benitez Teatro Flamenco. 8 p.m. at the Veteran's Wadsworth Theatre. Info: (310) 825-2101.
- 15, 16 Song and Dance Ensemble of Tibet. Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Info: (800) 300-4345
- 16 Paco Pena, "Flamenco in Concert". A concert of the "pure" flamenco music from the Andalucian region of Spain. 8 p.m., Veteran's Wadsworth theatre. Info: (310) 825-2101.
- 16 Scandia Dance Club workshop 4 p.m., pot luck supper 6 p.m., dance party with live music 7:30 p.m. Lindberg Park, Culver City. Info: (310) 827-3618
- 17 6th Annual Los Angeles Mariachi Festival. Mariachi music, ballet folklorico, costumes. FREE. First & Boyle & Pleasant St., noon-5 p.m. Info: (213) 485-0709.
- 23 Grand Victorian Ball, 7:30 at Pasadena Masonic Lodge. Info: (818) 342-3482

- 28-12/1 Southern California Scandia Festival, at Cedar Glen Camp, Julian, CA. Sissel Flatland & Knut Skrindo (Norway), Arne Anderdal (Norway) and Karin Code.Info: (310) 827-3618 or (818) 342-7111.
- 29 "Day-after-Thanksgiving Party". West L.A. Folk Dancers, 7:30 p.m. at Brockton School. Pot luck, allrequest program. Info: Beverly or Irwin Barr, (310) 202-6166.

DECEMBER

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14

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- Yalynka Festival and Open House. Ukranian festival with music, dance performances by the L.A. Ukranian Dance Co., foods, crafts. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Ukranian Culture Center 4315 Melrose Ave. Info: (213) 668-0172
- St. Nicholas Christmas Ball. L.A. Biltmore Hotel. Info: (805) 684-5864
- West Valley Folk Dancer's festival, 1:30-5:30 p.m. Location TBA. Info: (818) 368-1957 or 348-6133.
- Hungarian Dance Party. Teaching 7:30-9 p.m., followed by dance. Gypsy Camp, 3265 Motor Ave., L.A. Info: 202-9024.
 - Andrew Rankine Memorial Christmas Ball, tustin Sr. Center. sponsored by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.
 - 20th Annual Kwanzaa Gwaride Festival. Celebrating the African American New Year and the coming year with songs, rituals, dances. 10 a.m.-dusk at Leimert Park Village, 43rd Place and Crenshaw Blvd. FREE. Info: (213) 789-5654
- Fiesta Navidad, with Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano and Ballet Folklorico Olin. Program of the traditional sights and sounds of a traditional Mexican Christmas. 8 p.m. at the Wadsworth Theatre. Info: (310) 825-2101.

1997 JANUARY

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- Hungarian Dance Party with teaching 7:30-9 p.m., followed by dance. Gypsy camp, 3265 Motor Ave., L.A. Info: (310) 202-9024.
- 12 Pasadena Co-op's Winter Festival. Scottish Rites Temple, 150 N. Madison Ave., Pasadena (NOTE NEW LOCATIONI). 1:30-5:30 p.m. 4nfo: (818) 300-8138

- The Whirling Dervises, performance of Turkey's mystical Sufi sect. 8 p.m., the Veteran's Wadsworth Theatre. Info: (310) 825-2101.
- 27-2/29 The Chinese New Year Celebration - 4694, the Year of the Rat. Ongoing festivities including parades, ethnic foods. In the L.A. Chinatown District, downtown L.A. Info: (213) 617-0396.
 - Kodo, Japan's drummers from Sado Island. 8 p.m. at the Wiltern Theatre. Info: (310) 825-2101.

FEBRUARY

24

30

Black History Month. Events include:

- 2/11: Black Cultural Fest at Darby Park, 3400 W. Arbor Vitae, Inglewood, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: (310) 412-5391
- 2/17: "The Afrikans are Coming", an African cultural extravaganza featuring authentic African drumming and dancing from all over the continent. Arts & crafts and African foods.6 p.m. at the Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro, L.A. Info (310) 412-1136; (818) 361-7075
- Guitar Music of Latin America. Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Info: (714) 432-5880

18,19 Preservation Hall Jazz Band concert, Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Info: (800) 300-4345

21 The Peking Acrobats. 8 p.m. at Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Info: (714) 432-5902

MARCH

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- AMAN Institute Reunion-'97. Dance instruction, singing, live music, food, folk arts and crafts vendors. Full dinner available in full package; evening party with live music. Mayflower Ballroom, 234 S. Hindry Ave., Inglewood. Info: AMAN Office, (213) 931-1750.
- Lola Montes & Her Spanish Dancers. Concert of Hispanic dance, music and song. Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Info: (714) 432-5902
- China Lake Dancers Festival, Ridgecrest. Saturday 1-5 and 7-11; Sunday 8:30-noon. Location TBA. Info: (619) 375-6227.

- 20-22 Mazowsce Polish State Dance Ensemble at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Info: (800) 300-4345
- Pysanka Festival and 1996 Easter
 Open House. Folk art
 demonstrations, music and folk
 dance performances. Ukranian
 Culture Center, 4315 Melrose Ave.,
 L.A. From 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Info:
 (213) 668-0172

APRIL

4-6 Westwood Weekend at Camp Hess Kramer, Malibu. Info: (310) 391-7382

7-13 UCLA's Worldfest '96. A multicultural event highlighting food, dance, art, music theater and writings. FREE. Contact the Cultural Affairs department at (310) 825-9912 for detailed schedule or other info.

13-14 Songkran Festival (Thai New Year). Thai classical dance and music, foods, rituals re-enacted. 8 a.m.-8 p.m. at 8225 Coldwater Canyon, N. Hollywood. FREE. Info: (818) 780-4200 or 997-9657.

13 Westwood Co-op's Spring Festival. Veteran's Aud, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City. 1:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Info: (310) 452-0091 or 478-6600.

- 20,21 "Bunka Sai", Japanese Cultural Festival. All day cultural celebration of Japanese arts - taiko drumming, dancing, martial arts, cultural exhibits. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Dr., Torrance. FREE! Info: (310) 618-2930
- 20-28 Santa Monica Arts Festival: A celebration of Community Roots. All day performances in Clover Park, showcasing the many ethnic groups that comprise the Santa Monica community. Festival on 4/20 from noon-6 p.m. at Clover Park, 2600 Ocean Blvd., Santa Monica. FREE. Info (310) 315-9444; 458-8350
- 27, 28 Aloha Expo 1996. Continuous multi-cultural entertainment and demonstrations, foods. Gemming Park, 4000 Dovey Dr., Long Beach. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Info: (310) 549-8724

MAY 4,5

7th Annual Pacific Islander Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Ken Mallov Harbor Regional Park, 25820 S. Vermont Ave., Wilmington. FREE. Info: (310) 940-7202; (213) 485-2437; (714) 968-1785

1996 UCLA Pow Wow,celebrating the cultures of Native Americans. 8 a.m.-11 p.m. at the Intramural Field, UCLA Campus. FREE Info: (310) 206-7513

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- UCLA Music & Dance on the Grass. 3 performance areas for music, dance, martial arts, story telling. Ethnic crafts and foods. Noon-6 p.m., Sunset Canyon Recreation Center, UCLA Campus. FREE!! Info: (310) 206-1786; (310) 825-3671 (day of event).
- International Conference on Middle Eastern Dance. Performance by Mona El Said. 8 p.m., Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Info, tix: (714) 432-5902
- 18,19 Claremont Spring Folk Festival, showcasing folk and ethnic music. Workshops in several instrument. Special concert Saturday p.m. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Larkin Park and Jossalyn Senior center, Claremont. Info: (909) 624-2928; 987-5701.
 - 36th Annual Topanga Banjo, Fiddle Contest, Dance and Folk Art Festival. Four stages. Six participatory dance areas. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. at Paramount Ranch, Cornell Rd. near Agoura, in the Santa Monica Mountains. Info: (818) 382-4819.
 - Los Angeles Cuban Cultural Festival. Music and dance performance, participatory dancing. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Echo Park, Park & Glendale Ave., L.a. FREE. Info: (213) 485-0709.

23-26 "Dancelore Express", Statewide Folk Dance Festival. YMCA, Whittier. Info: (714) 641-7450. More info TBA.

JUNE 1,2

1,2

- 10th Annual Cajun & Zydeco Festival. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Rainbow Lagoon, Long Beach. Info: (310) 427-3713.
- Ho'oaule'a Hawaiian Festival of the Valley. Featuring hula and Tahitian dancers, Pacific Island music, traditional games and crafts, foods. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Northridge Park, 10058 Reseda Blvd., Northridge. FREE. Info: (818) 366-

Calendar

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JULY

22nd Annual Great American Fair and Music Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Santa Anita Racetrack, 285 W. Huntington Dr., Arcadia. Info: (213) 480-3232; (714) 740-2000; (818) 503-2511

21,22 16th Annual Summer Solstice, Folk Music, Dance and Storytelling Festival. Soka University, 26800 W. Mulholland Hwy, Calabasas. Info: (818) 342-7664

> The Los Angeles Russian Folk Orchestra and Firebird concert, 7:30 p.m. at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Info: Orchestra hotline (213) 222-5743 or (310) 547-5350

29,30 5th Annual Aloha Concert jam Festival. Music and dance performances. Long Beach Rainbow Lagoon, foot of Pine Ave. & Shoreline Dr., Long Beach. Info: (909) 606-9494.

13-8/3 Bon Odori Festivals. Bon Dance traditional outdoor Japanese folk dancing at several Buddhist temples throughout the southland. All events free.

 13,14
 19th Annual Lotus Festival. Featuring various Asian and Pacific Island cultures. Food, dance performances, crafts, exhibitions. Noon-9 p.m. Sat., noon-8 p.m. Sun. Echo Park Lake, Park & Glendale, L.A. FREE! Info: (213) 485-1310.

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Laguna Folkdance Festival
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BULGARIAN MUSIC & SONG WORKSHOPS with Donka Koleva, Nikolai Kolev & Radoy Guerguiev

These three very special musicians from Bulgaria will be conducting music and singing workshops throughout Southern California this month.

Donka Koleva is a native of the village of Tuzha in the Stara Zagora region of Bulgarian Thrace. She graduated from the Musical Folklore High School in Shiroka Luka, and performed for 3 years with the Sliven Folk Dance and Music Ensemble. She was the director of the Folk Song Chorus of Sopot, has been a featured soloist on Bulgarian Radio-TV, and has participated in many singing competitions in Bulgaria and Europe. She is currently one of the solo singers for the group Balkanski Glasove.

Nikolai Kolev, a native of Karavelovo in Bulgarian Thrace, has been playing gadulka since age 10. After graduating from the music school in Shiroka Luka, he has performed constantly, first as soloist of the Sliven Ensemble for Folk Songs and Dances. In 1985, Nikolai formed the folk wedding music ensemble, Rozova Dolina, and in 1992 founded the prizewinning ensemble, Balkanski Glasove.

Radoy Guerguiev studied at the music conservatory in Shiroka Luka and later taught there. He has appeared with numerous performing groups, including the Rhodopa, Sliven and Sofia Shipski ensembles. He has also been an invited guest and staff at the EEFC Music and Dance Workshops as a tambura instructor.

At current printing, their schedules are as follows:

- Friday, 11/22: Evening Bulgarian singing workshop with Donka at Sophia Poster's house in L.A.
- Saturday, 11/23: Singing workshop with Donka from 5:30-7 p.m.at the Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th St, San Di ego, followed by a potluck from 7-8 p.m., and a dance party with live mu

sic and singing of Bulgaria with Donka, Radoy and Nikolai.

Tuesday, 11/26: Dance party with Donka, Radoy and Nikolai at Cal Tech in Pasadena.

The group is available for other parties and workshops. For more information, contact Vicki Maheu at (619) 229-0500

SPECIAL EVENT IN SAN DIEGO

Some dancers have put together an event honoring all folk dance teachers in San Diego, past and present. The event will be November 16th at 7:30 p.m. at the Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th St., San Diego. Included will be a special honoring of Vivian Woll and Evelyn Prewitt, amongst over 50 others. Everyone is asked to bring in photo albums and/or other memorabilia. It will be a good time to see and photograph many of the "old timers", to renew old acquaintances, and perhaps spark some new ones! Everybody's welcome! For more info, call (619) 283-3560.

LAGUNA FESTIVAL UPDATE

Two of our favorite teachers, Richard Powers and Joe Graziosi, have agreed to be featured teachers for the 1997 Laguna folkdance Festival on February 7-9. Richard was featured in the 1993 festival. Joe has taught in Laguna several times and is no stranger to the area, but this will be his first festival appearance. Both were immensely popular here and we are happy to have them return.

The festival returns to Ensign Jr. High School in Newport Beach, with its wonderful wood floor. Vendors will be there with all their wares, there will be dance parties and afterparties and live music and a dance concert and food and good friends and all the rest that making folk dance so much fun.

The festival kicks off on Friday evening with a Welcoming Party at 7:30 p.m. The teachers will be introduced in a workshop from 8-10 p.m. An Advanced Workshop Saturday morning and an Intermediate Workshop in the afternoon will be followed after dinner by the festival's centerpiece — Veselo Selo's Valentine Dance and Afterparty. Sunday's activities begin at 11:45 a.m. with a concurrent Balkan Dance Party and Beginner's Class for first timers, taught by the teachers. The Folk Dance Concert follows at 1:30 and the festival winds down (?) with a dance party from 3-5:30 p.m.

Prices are anticipated to be about the same as last year (and the two or three years before that). Watch for pre-registration information and the pre-registration discount on the All-event passport.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

Marilynn Pixler

Known for being active and longtime supporters of folk dancing (New Year's Eve Party and the January Festival), Federation's Pasadena Folk Dance Cooperative has now joined the popular trend of enjoying an orchestra within their club. currently nine members combine their talents to play a repertoire of 34 well-known ethnic folk tunes.

When "Fifth Friday" nights occur in a month, Pasadena Co-op provides an allrequest program with tapes and everyone's pot luck snacks to regulars and guests. In addition to these offerings, the musicians perform at this "Special" party night. It is rumored that they will share their talents with a more widespread audience very soon. On regular Friday nights, Pasadena offers instruction in beginning/ intermediate and sometimes advanced dancing from 7:45 to 9 p.m. An International program follows with space for visitors' requests until 11 or so.

The group meets at Throop Unitarian Church, 300 S. Los Robles (Northeast corner of Del Mar), Pasadena. The next "Fifth Friday" night will be November 29, 1996.



UNIVERSITY OF JUDAISM'S 1996-97 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS

From klezmer to chorus, ballet to burlesque, the University of Judaism's International Festival of the Performing Arts at Gindi Auditorium will present an eclectic array of events during the 1996-97 season. The series has expanded from 3 to 4 performances for each event, adding a show on Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. to the regular schedule.

The Maxwell Street Klezmer Band creates its own brand of Jewish soul music on November 16, 17 and 19. This Chicagobased band will play Yiddish classics and old world tunes. Theodor Bikel taps into his vast repertoire of music and stories on December 14, 15 and 17, singing in a variety of styles, languages and moods.

The Russian New Year will be celebrated by San Francisco's Ballet Russe on January 11, 12 and 14. The performance promises a mad mix of high flying Cossack acrobatics, whirling Ukrainian squat dances, lyrical court dances from Moldavia, vigorous boot-stamping dances from Minsk, Uzbek juggling feats and a 19th Century banquet scene complete with traditional quadrilles, caroling, folk instruments and a czar's fortune in museum-quality costuming.

For tickets and information, call (310) 476-9777 Ext. 201 or 203. Gindi Auditorium is located at the University of Judaism, 15600 Mulholland Dr., off the Mulholland Drive exit of the San Diego Freeway in West L.A.

STATEWIDE UPDATE "Dancelore Express"

At the end of the Statewide Festival meeting on September 15, 1996, several decisions were made. The Festival will be held in Whittier, with the Whittier YMCA to house the dances, workshops and parties, and the Whittier High school Auditorium as the site of the Statewide Concert. The Whittier Hilton Hotel will serve as the headquarters hotel. Tentatively, the teaching staff will include Jancsi Olay (Hungarian), and Nina Kavardjakova/Jaap Leegwater (Bulgarian) for Saturday's workshops, and Mihai David (Romania) and Yoni Carr (Israel) for Sunday. As a special treat, Dick Crum will be teaching a Licko Kolo class on Saturday from 4-5 p.m.

The festival schedule, to date, will include several dance workshops and parties, an ice cream social, a Festival parade, a dance concert, and a host of surprises. More details available in the next issue of "Scene".

SCANDIA WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

Scandia dance classes resumed in September, teaching material primarily from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. Though they start in September with the basics and progress until June, it is still possible to get in on almost the ground floor.

Though Scandinavian dances are almost exclusively couple dances, you don't have to attend the classes as part of a couple....there are always plenty of other singles around, and during the teaching sessions, everyone rotates around the circle, allowing everyone a chance to dance with everyone else.

Check out this warm group of dancers. Call Donna Tripp for Orange County info at (714) 533-3886 or Jacque Cohl for Los Angeles info at (310) 558-8352.

CAJUN & ZYDECO DANCE SCHED-ULE

The Traditional Music and Dance Conservancy will be sponsoring Cajun and Zydeco dances every second and 4th Friday night at the War Memorial Hall, 435 Fair Oaks Ave. in South Pasadena. Live music is featured at each dance, by such groups as the Kent Menard Zydeco Band, the Acadiana Cajun Band, and the Joe Simien Cajun Band (to name a few). Cajun/Creole food is available at each event. Doors open at 7 p.m., with free dance lessons from 7:30-8 p.m. The kitchen opens at 7:30 p.m. and the band starts playing at 8 p.m. Upcoming events are on September 13, September 27, October 11 and October 25. For more information, call the LA LA Line at (818) 793-4333.

UCLA'S 1996/96 CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS SCHEDULE

The 1996/96 schedule lists a number of performances of interest to anyone interested in ethnic music and dance. Included amongst these are a concert by the Sabri Brothers featuring the music of Islam's musical Sufis, the Oawwals of Pakistan in November; Fiesta Navidad, the staging of a Mexican Christmas in December; Kodo, Japan's famous drummers from Sado Island; Olodum, Brazil's reggae/samba group in October; Maria Benitez's Teatro Flamenco in November; the Whirling Dervishes, performing the dance of Turkey's mystical Sufi group; and many others. For more information. or a brochure, contact the UCLA Center for the Performing Arts, P.O. Box 951429, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1429, or call (310) 825-2101.

NEW YEAR'S IS COMING

Want to have a great experience? Want to spend a New Year's weekend with other friendly folk dancers? Want to have a very full weekend with lots of interesting things to do and see? Want to have a wonderful time? Call Beverly and Irwin for information about their annual New Year's Weekend plans. (310) 202-6166 or 478-4659.

CAMP HESS KRAMER WEEKEND

Have you heard about the wonderful Camp Hess Kramer weekends? The Camp Hess Kramer Weekend, a "Camps Review" workshop in Malibu, is scheduled for the first weekend in November. There'll be lots of excellent teaching, great parties, wonderful food, hiking,



walking, reading, visiting with old friends and making new ones.

Teaching will include dances from L.I.F.E. camp, Stockton Folk Dance camp, San Luis Obispo Israeli Camp, Finjan Camp and others. Teachers will be Beverly Barr (Southern California) with great dances that didn't get taught from prior camps and some from recent camps, Joyce Clyde (Northern California) with dances from L.I.F.E. Camp and Stockton Folk Dance Camp, and Loui Tucker (Northern California) with dances from recent Israeli camps and Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

For information, call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or 478-4659, or the Folk Dance Federation at (310) 478-6600. A flyer can be mailed to you.

KOLO FESTIVAL 1996

Thanksgiving's around the corner and we have the perfect antidote for those overstuffed turkey blues! Come to the San Francisco Russian Center, Thursday-Saturday, November 28-30, and enjoy a weekend of music, folklore, singing and dancing at the Annual Kolo Festival.

This year Dick Crum will teach the Beginning Balkan dance classes. Petur Iliev (Bulgarian dances), an energetic and enthusiastic teacher, will be featured, along with Tatiana Sarbinska (Bulgarian singing), who will be teaching all levels of singing. Additionally, there will be Ercument Kilic (dances of Turkey and Azerbaijan), and Zeliko Jergan, a former soloist with the Croatian ensemble, Lado, teaching Croatian dance. And bring along your songbooks for the Saturday evening sing-along in the Kafana.

Saturday at lunchtime will feature Jaap Leegwater and Nine Kavardjikova will present a special session highlighting the Traditional Bulgarian Wedding, the changes it has undergone over the last 40-50 years, and what traditional forms survive in present-day Bulgarian city weddings.

PECE ATANOVSKI; In Memory Larry Weiner, Silver Spring, MD

Pece Atanovski, whose who love of Macedonian music, dance, and culture served as an inspiration to many, passed away from a heart attack in Skopje on Saturday, September 14, 1996. He will be dearly missed.

There are a few people who pass through each of our lives who effect us deeply, positively, and in lasting ways. Pece was one of these people for me. Pece was a rare talent; in his genre, a musician of extraordinary skill and taste, an emotional and powerful dancer whose feelings always projected through the dance, a folklorist who never lost sight of, and always valued and respected his Macedonian roots, a teacher, a mason (Pece's medium was concrete...if it could be built out of concrete, Pece could do it....and he'd want to teach you how to do it as well), a person of strong and passionate beliefs and integrity (and plenty stubborn, too), and a person who gave, and gave, and gave. He was a conduit for presenting all that was beautiful, mystical, complex and sometimes troubling about his Macedonian culture. His musical signature did much to shape the sound of Macedonian music since the 50's and shape it in the most tasteful of ways. I will miss these things and so much more about Pece, but mostly, I will just miss Pece.

For more info, contact Joanne Splivalo, (510) 652-7859 or (800) 730-5615, or Kolo Festival, P.O. Box 20181, Piedmont, CA 94620-0181.



Subscribe to

Dance Traditions



Ruchenitsa (alternately spelled "rachenitsa") is one of the four basic horos of Bulgaria, the other three being the *pravo*, the *paidushko* and the povurnato. The latter are all chain dances with participants holding hands in straight, front basket or back basket hold, or holding at the belt or at the shoulders. *Ruchenitsa*, on the other hand, is generally done as a couple or solo dance, though a chain dance variation called *hvanoti ruchenitsa* can still be seen in Thrace (SE Bulgaria).

The spirit of the dance is perhaps best described as friendly but competitive, a contest of improvisational ability, dexterity, and stamina, as reflected in the following scenario:

Perhaps a young man speaks to a young girl at the *sedenka* (a group of young people who meet in the evenings to gossip, tell stories, joke, sing, play music and dance). "Who will compete with me in a dance?" A young girl answers, "I dare you to dance better than I." The boy accepts the challenge, "Very well, we shall dance and if I win, then you are my partner for the evening." (1)

Though usually a couple dance, partners dance apart from each other, rarely doing the same steps simultaneously. Rather, each dances to the basic 7/16 rhythm, embroidering on the basic pas de basque step with turns, squats, fluid hand and arm movements, and flirtatious movements in increasing speed and with increasing complexity. Often, as the excitement of the dance builds, the musicians will change the rhythm to 7/8, 2/4 or 9/16, further challenging the dancers.

Ruchenitsa is also called Na srvata (meeting), Posadnik (seating), Kurpeshkom (with a handkerchief), Na pryask kuma (before the grandfather), Chupnitsa (bending), and Zulvenska (sister-in-law). Each of these names connotes either a characteristic trait, a particular figure or step, or a time during which it is danced. Well preserved in Bulgarian folklore, variations of the dance are done during rituals for St. Lazarus' Day, St. George's Day, St. Enio's Day, at Christmas festivals, at weddings, and at funerals, to name a few.

Integral to wedding rituals, bridesmaids and ushers dance a *ruchenitsa* at the head of the wedding procession as it leavesthe church. Another is done by the grooms relatives on the Monday after the wedding ceremony when they go to visit the





bride's mother. also on this Monday, when the bride first goes from her new home to fetch water to offer to her own mother, young men and girls dance a *ruchenitsa* in front of her. Na srvata (meeting) is the name given to a *ruchenitsa* done in two lines, where the rows meet and separate. This is a dance done traditionally when the bride's sisterin-law meets the bride at her father-inlaw's house. Zulvenska (sister-in-law) and Na pryask kuma (the grandfather) are names designating the ritual role of these *ruchenitsas* in the wedding customs.

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Bulgarian Folk Songs

enturies of oppression have left their mark on Bulgarian folk song and music, accounting for the undertone of melancholy in almost all songs and the underlying mysticism typical of devout peasants.

The territory now officially Bulgaria is a portion of the Thrace of ancient history. During the 4th to the 10th centuries, the area was invaded by the Huns, the Goths, the Vandals, the Avars, the Hungarians, and the Slavs, amongst others. Of these, only the Slavs settled, bringing with them their customs, stories, legends, and their songs.

Then, towards the middle of the 7th Century, hordes of wild Bulgar horsemen swept through the countryside to conquer the more cultured Slavic inhabitants and give their name to the region. They settled into the area, intermarried with the Slavs, and adopted their language, customs, and many of their cultural patterns. The first Bulgarian Kingdom, founded in 679, saw the introduction of Christianity to Bulgaria. The First Bulgarian Empire, founded in the early 10th Century, was brutally overtaken by the Greeks and eventually consolidated into the Byzantine Empire. Bulgaria remained in this state until the founding of the Second Bulgarian Empire in 1186. This ended with surrender to Serbian forces, and in 1396, the last Bulgarian empire was annihilated by the Turks.

For the next 500 years, Bulgaria was ruled by the Turks who sought to destroy all vestiges of native learning and culture, thoroughly subjugating the native population. During this dark period in Bulgarian history, some of the nobility remained and embraced Islam, but most of the intellectuals and leaders fled across the Danube. That left the peasants, many of whom fled to the relative safety of the mountains and established settlements there. These people, isolated from the rest of Bulgaria and often from each other, are responsible for much of what we call Bulgarian folk music today. For them, tradition became a means of survival. Folk singing, as individuals and as a community, provided a catharsis for their life experiences. And as communication, song became an almost unnoticed weapon of this conquered people.

Finally, in the 19th Century, due to a national revival spurred by the writings of Father Paisii, a monk of the Catholic Church, the Turkish powers permitted recognition of an autonomous Bulgarian Church. There followed a revolution in 1876, viciously suppressed by the Turks, and finally, invading Russian forces spurred the liberation of Bulgaria in 1878. The Third Bulgarian Kingdom was then formed, headed by monarchs from the major royal houses of Europe. 1944 saw the establishment of the Bulgarian National Republic which was overtaken and ruled by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II. It is only in the last few years that the Bulgarian people have been under their own rule.

Each group left its mark on the Bulgarian people. Starting with the ancient Slavs, an agrarian people, there was a superstitious faith in the power of sound. They sang or chanted at sacrificial ceremonies, funerals, weddings, at work and at play. Music was a highly respected art, and talented members of the community were trained in its mysteries. Later, the Christian church opposed folk music, but by the 12th Century,

".....the fields have for generations been the concert halls of the Bulgarians."





Bûlka vurvi, bûlka vurvi Prez gorá zeléna. Kato vurvi, kato vurvi Žálno, milno pláche: "Pláchi góro, pláchi séstro, Dváma da plácheme, Ti za tvóite liste, góro, Áz za móita mládost. Tvóite liste, góro, séstro, Slaná oslanilo, Móito libe, góro séstro, Daléch zabegnálo, Daléch zabegnálo Young bride wanders, young bride wanders Through the fresh green forest. And as she walks, and as she walks, She is softly sighing: "Weep. O forest, weep, my sister, Let us weep together, You for your leaves, my dear forest, I for my lost girlhood. Frost has bitten, forest sister, Your leaves green and tender, While my lover, dearest sister, Far away has ridden, Far away has ridden

11

folk melodies were being used in compositions for the Church. The Bulgarian chant, with its polyphonic style, evolved in the 14th-15th Centuries.

During the Turkish rule, the peasant, cut off from commerce and a ruling class, created a life of his own, centered around work, song and dancing. The song became the chief means of expression for all aspects of peasant life....of everyday life, of love, of grief, and much more.

Boris Kremenliev, in his text on Bulgarian-Macedonian folk music, divided folk songs into two main categories: Songs of the Past and Songs of Everyday Life,

Songs of the Past

Most surviving songs of this type date back only as far as the 14th Century, the start of the Turkish occupation. Within this category are Historic Songs, which depict concrete events, and Hero Songs, which may include real events, but exaggerate the characteristics and deeds of the hero. An example of the latter are songs about Krali Marko who, as a Turkish vassal, was able to help and protect the peasants under his rule. Perhaps the most colorful songs within this category are the Heiduk songs - songs of Robin Hood-like bandits who lived in the mountains, often in bands, and would sweep down on the rulers, creating havoc and robbing. Because they lived in the forested areas of the mountains, these songs have a strong natural element embedded in them.

Songs of Every Day Life

This broad category includes love songs, songs of family life, songs of national customs, holiday songs, songs about nature, work songs, children's songs, and songs about the weather

Love songs are primarily composed from the female point of view, but those telling of separation of lovers are usually sung by young men. Most are sentimental, with a haunting quality. Many wedding songs, sung through all the days of the wedding preparation and at the wedding itself, also have a sad, haunting quality. The theme of many is that carefree days are over. Dark clouds come over the bride's house while the sun shines over the groom's, reflecting the truly hard role awaiting the bride. She must take over all household duties at her mother-in-law's house.

Indoor and outdoor work songs abound. During the winter months, women gather indoors at *sedenkas*, working bees where they do household chores common to them all, easing the drudgery with gossip, story-telling and song. *Sedenka* is also the name given to informal evening gatherings held at different homes by small groups of young women, centering around the same activities, and around dancing. The young men of the village go from one *sedenka* to another during the evening, allowing them to visit and "look over" the available young women. It has been said that the fields have for generations been the concert halls of the Bulgarians. Outdoor work songs center on planting, on field work, and harvesting of crops. Men and women work the fields, singing exuberant songs as they work, more subdued songs as they rest and eat during the hottest hours of the day. Peculiar to the harvest songs are loudly sung "nonsense" syllables inserted at the beginning or end of stanzas.

Songs for the Time of Drought (May-June) are sung ritually every year at the *Peperuda*. The ritual centers around a young girl, decorated with greenery, who

assumes the role of the "butterfly". She, with a group of other young girls, go from house to house, the group singing and the "butterfly" dancing. At each household, members pour water on the girl and throw flour over her head. The water, of course, represents rain, and the green decorations on the "butterfly" represent the crops which need rain for their growth. Songs about nature abound. There are songs about flowers, songs about birds, songs about natural phenomena., and the spirit of the mountain, often personified as Father Balkan, is the subject of many of these songs. The mountains, and the forests they harbor, are a symbol of power, protection and hope (reminiscent of the era of the Turkish reign when the forests and mountains protected the heiduk).

Humorous songs lighten the life of the villagers, allowing them to poke fun at themselves and each other. The humor is generally simple and unpretentious, centering on action rather than on abstract humor. An example of this is the song about the mating of June (a very young woman) with December (a very old man), much to the displeasure of June.

Truly, then, folk song can be seen as an expression of all aspects of the life the Bulgarian people through the centuries, and, in fact, all arenas, from the fields to the church to the home, can be seen as their concert hall.

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"Folk song, as communication, became an almost unnoticed weapon of this conquered people."

Village instruments: a link to the past.

The Bulgarian people have completely preserved their musical instruments. And so, they can be heard everywhere in Bulgaria alongside the rhythmically and melodically original folk songs. To this day, family and national celebrations, dances and games all take place in the presence of folk instruments. They, like the folk song, are very old. The beginnings of some can probably be found in the ancient Thracian culture, others in the old Slav and Bulgarian and cultures, yet others from Eastern cultures.

By structure, Bulgarian folk instruments are quite diverse. They fall into three general categories: winds, strings, and percussions. the richest of these is the wind group, which includes the *kaval* and *svirka*, with openings at both ends; the *duduk* and *dvoyanka*, with whistle mouthpieces,; and the *gaida* and *zurna* (with single and double reeds, respectively). In the string category, there are towed instruments, the *gadulka* and the *gusla*, and the plucked *tambura*. The percussion group is represented by various sizes of the *tupan* and the *daireh*. But the most primitive instruments are the various musical toys which children make for themselves throughout the different seasons, from willow branches, rye and pumpkin stalks, and other similar "close-at-hand" materials.

Included amongst these are shepherd's bells of various sizes.

Some of the above instruments are found throughout the entire country (the kaval, svirka, duduk, gaida, gadulka and tupan). Others (the tambura, dvoyanka and zyrna) have only been preserved in a few regions. Additionally, each of the regions, differentiated by geography and life style, has its own characteristic instruments. The richest region for folk instruments is Thrace, where the kaval, gaida and gadulka are typical. In the Rhodope region, the large kaba gaida, with its deep tone, is predominant, while in the Central Stara Planina, the gadulka predominates, and in the Pirin region, the tambura.

In Bulgaria, only men play folk instruments. the women sing. Often, the players themselves are the makers of folk instruments, though there are also professionals who make and sell them. Following is a brief description of each of Bulgaria's most typical folk instruments.

WIND INSTRUMENTS The Kaval (Dudek)

This instrument is found in two forms, either one whole long pipe or a pipe with three joints. The form most common is the one with three joints. The joints, made of wood, are fitted together in a fashion similar to the parts of a flute. On the middle joint, the *kaval* has 8 finger holes; seven on the front and one on the back side, and the lower joint has 4 resonance holes. The instrument is end-blown, and can achieve a range of 3 octaves, all with a melancholy tone quality. Originally, the instrument was one used mainly by shepherds.

The Svirka (Tsafara)

Always single-jointed and much shorter than the kaval, this instrument has seven finger holes, six on the front and one on the back side. By angular blowing (end-blowing), it can achieve a range of two octaves. Though tonally more limited than the kaval, the svirka can be found throughout the entire country.

The Dudek

This typical instrument of northwestern Bulgaria resembles the *svirka* and the single-jointed *kaval*, but has a *zadunka* (whistle mouthpiece) inserted at the upper end, which leaves a small gap between itself and the wall of the pipe. It has a range of two octaves.



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The Dvoyanka

Found in Western Bulgaria and totally unknown to the population of Eastern Bulgaria,, this double-pipe instrument plays in two voices at once. It is made from wood and resembles a duduk with two parallel, joined pipes, one of which is melodic and the other a drone. The melodic pipe is like a *duduk* with six finger holes and similar tonal capabilities, while the drone has one resonating hole cut from the side, called glashnik. It is opposite the first hole from the bottom of the melody pipe. Because of its low volume, the instrument is usually played as a solo instrument for personal satisfaction at home or in the fields, or sometimes at sedenkas or very small horos.

The Gaida

Due to its volume, the gaida is mostly played in the open air for horos, family and folk celebrations. The instrument consists of a bag made from the skin of a young goat and several wooden parts: the duhalo for blowing up the bag, the gaidunitsa (the melodic pipe with a single reed and 8 finger holes, 7 on the front and one on the back) and the ruchilo, a 3jointed drone pipe with a single reed. There are two types of gaidas according to size: "large" gaidas found mostly in the Rhodopes and "small" gaidas, which are distributed over the rest of the country. By sound, both of the above types can be found in "low" tones (kaba), or middle and high tones (dzhura). The drone pipe (the ruchilo) is tuned to a tone equidistant between the upper and lower limits of the gaidunitsa, with its fifth tone which is also its tonal center. Most gaida melodies are built, no matter the key, upon this tone.



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Additionally, gaidas have a second tonal center. It is the second degree of the melodic pipe. The ruchilo sounds the fourth degree, the subdominant of the melody. Though the gaida has, amongst all the Bulgarian folk instruments, the smallest range, it is capable of playing both slow, well-ornamented melodies, and very fast, fiery melodies.

STRINGED INSTRUMENTS The Gadulka

One of the country's favorite stringed bowed instruments, the gadulka can be found in every part of the country under this or other names (the kemeneh, kemencheh, kopahka and gusla). Made of a single piece of wood and pear-shaped, the instrument ends with a short, wide neck and fingerboard, and a "head" which has holes for the keys for stretching and tuning the strings. There are 3 or 6 strings of gut or metal. It is held upright on the knee or tucked into the waistband for playing.

The Gusla

Similar in structure and form to the gadulka is the gusla. It is also pear shaped, but more oval than the gadulka, and has a thin, long neck and fingerboard. However, it has only two strings made of animal hair. The gusla existed up until 60-70 years ago, but only in Western Bulgaria, where it served primarily as an accompaniment to the epic hero songs characteristic of the region. It has been replaced in more recent years by the gadulka.



The Tambura

This is the only plucked stringed instrument found in Bulgaria. It is most often found among the Bulgarian and Bulgarian-Mohammedan population of the Western Rhodopes in southwestern Bulgaria, especially in the Razlog region of Pirin. Four and six-stringed versions are most common. Three of the strings of the four-stringed tambura are tuned in unison, and the fourth string is tuned to a fourth or fifth below the first three. Generally the first two strings are melodic and the second two are used as drone strings.

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

Tambourines and the bass drum (tupan) are the main percussion instruments of Bulgaria. The tupan is played with a mallet and a stick. The mallet is used for heavy beats, and the stick for secondary.

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CABRILLO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS	Tues, 7-8 pm Thur, 7-8 pm
CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Mon., 7:30 pm
CRESTWOOD FOLK DANCERS	Mon, 7-8:15 pm
DANCING FOOLS	Fri, 8:30 pm - 1:00 am
DESERT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS	Tues, 7:30-8:30 pm Call to confirm
HAVERIM FOLK DANCERS OF VENTURA	Sun, 7-9 pm
ISRAELI DANCE	Tues, 7-8 pm
ISRAELI & INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS	Tues, 7:45-10 pm
KAYSO FOLK DANCERS	Sat, 12:30-3 pm
LAGUNA BEGINNER'S FOLK DANCE CLASS	Sun, 7-7:45 pm
NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY BEGINNERS	Thurs, 7:30-9:30 pm
OJAI FOLK DANCERS	Wed., 7:30 pm
PASADENA CO-OP BEGINNER'S CLASS	Fri, 7:45-8:30 pm
SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL	Wed, 7-8:15 pm

SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLASS

(310) 202-9024

(213) 938-2531 x2228 David Katz

(818) 248-2020, Antoni (213) 660-1030, Jozef

(310) 278-5383, Marc Israel Tivka Mason, instructor

(310) 275-6847

(714) 530-6563 Pat Thomas

(818) 340-6432 JoAnne McColloch

(818) 845-7555 Susan Ounjian (619) 460-8475

Evelyn Prewett (805) 967-9991

(310) 275-6847 David Edery

(310) 391-8970 Miriam Dean

(213) 938-2531 x2228 Naomi Silbermintz

(310) 941-0845 Tom Bozigian, instructor

(619) 445-5995, Jack (619) 459-1336, Lu

(805) 496-1277

(310) 478-4659; 202-6166 Beverly Barr, instructor

(310) 204-1513 Jeffrey Levine

(619) 342-1297 Helen (619) 323-7259 Shelley

(805) 643-2886 Ann Zacher

(213) 938-2531 x2228 Jeffrey Levine

(310) 375-5553 Ginger McKale

(619) 469-7133 Rochelle Abraham

(714) 494-3302; 533-8667

(619) 747-1163 Faith Hagadorn (805) 649-1503 (818) 794-9493

(619) 422-5540 Alice Stirling

L.A. Gypsy Camp, 3265 Motor Ave.

LOS ANGELES, Westide Jewish Community Ctr. 5780 W. Olympic Blvd. VAN NUYS, Valley Cities Jewish Ctr. 13163 Burbank Blvd.

PASADENA, Vasa Hall 2031 E. Villa

L.A. Robertson Recreation Center 1641 Preuss Rd.

LONG BEACH 3801 E. Willow

FULLERTON, Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1155 N. Lemon

NORTHRIDGE, Le Club Gymnastics 19555 Prairie St.

VAN NUYS, 17231 Sherman Way L.A., 4950 W. Slauson Ave.

SAN DIEGO. Recital Hall. Balboa Park

SANTA BARBARA, Carillo Rec. Center Flora Codman100 E. Carillo St.

ARCADIA, 550 N Second Ave

MAR VISTA, 11827 Venice Blvd.

WEST L.A., Westwide Jewish Ctr., 5870 N. Olympic Blvd.

Different locations each night. Call for details.

SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club Balboa Park

WEST L.A., Brockton School 1309 Armacost Ave

WEST L. A. Gypsy Camp 3265 Motor Ave.

PALM SPRINGS, Village Center 538 N. Palm Canyon Dr.

VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah 7620 Foothill Rd. (corner Kimbal)

LOS ANGELES. Westside Jewish Community Ctr., 5870 W. Olympic Blvd.

REDONDO BEACH, Temple Menorah 1101 Camino Real

SAN DIEGO, North Park Rec Center, 4044 Idaho St.

LAGUNA BEACH, Community Center, 384 Legion Ave.

ESCONDIDO, Methodist Church Rec. Hall, 4th & Kalmia

OJAI. Ojai Art Center

PASADENA, Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles

SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club Balboa Park



ED MAAT

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