

ŠILOVAČKO ORO

Serbian

PRONUNCIATION: SHEE-loh-vach-koh OH-roh

TRANSLATION: Dance from Šilovo

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned Šilovačko oro in 1971 from members of the AMAN Folk Ensemble (aka, AMAN International Music and Dance Company) of Los Angeles, California, who had learned it from "Narodne Igre," Danica and Ljubica Janković (published in their book *Narodne Igre*). John Filcich presented the dance at the 1971 Idyllwild Folk Dance Workshop.

BACKGROUND: This "čačak" type dance, also known simply as "Šilovačko," is from the village of Šilovo, a few kilometers northeast of the town of Gnjilane (Gjilan) in the municipality of Gnjilane in Kosovo. Although the dance is from Kosovo, it is considered Serbian. Gnjilane is in an area of Serbia that became Kosovo-Metohija. Gnjilane as a settlement was formed around 1750, and as an urban center in 1772 and, as a town, developed in addition to the extinction of Artana, which in the Middle Ages was one of the cities and the largest commercial, economic, and mining centers in the Balkans. Originally, Šilovačko was a women's dance, but more recently, both men and women have performed the dance.

MUSIC: Festival Records (45rpm) FR-4110-B "Šilovačko Oro"
AMAN Folk Ensemble Vol. 1 (LP) AMAN-101, side one, band 8,
"Šilovačko Oro"

FORMATION: Open cir of mixed M and W with hands joined and held down in "V" pos. Originally, the W were at the lead end of the line.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: HOP: This is actually a low hop (or "lift") where the ball of the ft does not leave the floor.

The dance is done with small steps.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION - None. The dance may start at any phrase, however.

THE DANCE

- 1 Low hop L (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2);
- 2 Step L across in front of R (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2);
- 3 Step L across in front of R (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2);
- 4 Step L across in front of R (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2);

- 5 Low hop R (ct 1); step L in place (ct 2);
- 6 Step R fwd, lifting L slightly in back (ct 1); step L back to place (ct 2);

- 7 Low hop L (ct 1); step R in place (ct 2);
- 8 Step L fwd, lifting R slightly in back (ct 1); step R back to place (ct 2);

- 9 Low hop R (ct 1); step L in place (ct 2);
- 10 Step R in place (ct 1); step L across in front of R (ct 2).

Repeat entire dance from beg.

VARIATION

- 1 Low hop L (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2);
- 2 Close L to R, taking wt (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2);
- 3 Close L to R, taking wt (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2);
- 4 Close L to R, taking wt (ct 1); step R swd (ct 2).

- 5-10 Repeat action of meas 5-10 of the basic dance.

Repeat entire dance from beg.