

Juta

Origin: East Serbia

Record: Balkan Arts MK-2H BA 1002

Formation: Long lines using belt hold, L arm over

Source: Martin Koenig

Note: Martin Koenig collected this dance from the villages of Halovo and Gradskovo in the late 1960's. These villages are in the *vlach* region of East Serbia where Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia share common borders. The vast majority of the people in this area speak a Romanian dialect. Dance and music traditions from this area are particularly strong. As with many other dances from the region, the dance has a flat-footed character with small steps close to the ground. Each figure is danced as many times as the leader desires, however, the leader often takes musical cues to change figures when the melody changes.

Meter: 2/4

No introduction.

Figure 1:

There is a slight knee flex before each step in this figure. The flex is on the "&" count.

Meas.

- 1 Facing ctr, step sideways/R on R ft (ct. 1); step on L ft beside R ft (ct. 2)
- 2 Step sideward R on R ft (ct. 1); touch L ft beside R ft (ct. 2)
- 3 Step fwd on L ft, L knee slightly bent and R ft remains in original pos (ct. 1); step back on R ft (ct. 2)
- 4 Step back on L ft beside R ft (ct. 1); touch R ft slightly fwd (ct. 2)
- 5 Touch R ft slightly sideward/R (ct. 1); touch R ft slightly fwd (ct. 2)

Figure 2:

- & Facing ctr, hop on L ft (This count belongs to the preceding measure)
- 1 Turning to face CW, step back on R ft (ct. 1); step on L ft beside R ft (ct. &); step back on R ft (ct. 2); step on L ft beside R ft (ct. &)
 - 2 Step back on R ft (ct. 1); step on L ft beside R ft (ct. &); small step back on R ft (ct. 2); turning to face ctr, hop on R ft, L ft swings slightly fwd and close to ground (ct. &)
 - 3 Step on L ft in place (ct. 1); hop on L ft, R ft swings slightly fwd and close to ground (ct. &); step on R ft in place (ct. 2); hop on R ft, L ft swings slightly fwd and close to ground (ct. &)
 - 4 Step on L ft in place (ct. 1); step heavily fwd on R ft (ct. &); step in place on L ft (ct. 2); step heavily sideward R on R ft (ct. &)
 - 5 Step on L ft in place (ct. 1); step heavily fwd on R ft (ct. &); step on L ft in place (ct. 2)

Figure 3:

- & Facing ctr, hop on L ft (This count belongs to the preceding measure)
- 1 Step heavily in place on R ft, this step is accented down, both knees bent (ct. 1); step heavily in place on L ft, knees straight (ct. &); repeat cts. 1, & (cts. 2, &)
 - 2 Repeat Meas. 1 cts. 1, &, 2 (cts. 1-2); stamp L ft slightly fwd diag/R, no wt (ct. &)
 - 3 Step on L ft beside R ft (ct. 1); stamp R ft slightly fwd diag/L, no wt (ct. &); step on R ft beside L ft (ct. 2); stamp L ft slightly fwd diag/R, no wt (ct. &)
 - 4 Step on L ft in place (ct. 1); step heavily fwd on R ft (ct. &); step on L ft in place (ct. 2); step heavily sideward R on R ft (ct. &)
 - 5 Step on L ft in place (ct. 1); step heavily fwd on R ft (ct. &); step on L ft in place (ct. 2)