

KOKONJESTE

(Serbia)

The Kokonješte Kolos (Koh-kohn-YEHSH-teh KOH-loh), also spelled Kukunješte or Kokonješće, are native to old Serbia. Characteristic of these dances is the series of three quick steps, each preceded by two leaps. There are many variations and melodies, often named after the locale of origin. This dance is the simplest of the Kokonješte family. It was introduced by John Filcich at the University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp, 1954.

MUSIC: Record: Balkan 45-576; Sonart 2024 (78); Balkan 545;
Folk Art LP 107, Side 1, Band 2

Piano: "Dance Along with the Tamburitians"
Fifty Favorite Kolos, 1961

FORMATION: Open or broken circle of dancers, all facing LOD, hands joined and down throughout entire dance. Leader at R end; end dancers place free hand behind back.

STEPS AND STYLING: Walk*, leap*
Threes: Step (or small leap) onto R in place (ct 1); step L beside R (ct &); step R in place (ct 2). Repeat would start with small leap onto L. Keep the steps very small.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

INTRODUCTION

At the discretion of the leader.

I. ACTIVE

- 1 Moving in LOD, take a low leap diag fwd R on R (ct 1); low leap diag fwd L on L (ct 2).
- 2-4 Facing ctr, dance 3 "Threes" (RLR, LRL, RLR), moving slightly bkwd, to expand circle to original size.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 to the L (RLOD) with opp ftwork.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8.
- 17-32 Repeat action of meas 1-16.

II. PASSIVE

- 1 Moving in LOD, step R, L (cts 1, 2).
- 2 Face ctr and step R to R (ct 1); step L beside R, no wt (ct 2).
- 3 Step L to L (ct 1); step R beside L, no wt (ct 2).
- 4 Step R to R (ct 1); step L beside R, no wt (ct 2).
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II), beginning L to L.
- 9-12 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II). L ft is now free.

Repeat dance from the beginning, but because L ft is free, it moves in RLOD first (all directions and ftwork are reversed). At the end of the Passive Pattern, R ft is again free to repeat dance exactly as written.