

KATANKA
(East Serbia)

Source: Learned in Pirot, Serbia near the Bulgarian border by Anatol Joukowsky. Described in "Folk Dances from Yugoslavia" by L. and D. Janković, published in Belgrade, 1949. Dance no. 91.

Record: Kolo Festival RRH80P-1503 (Vol. 3). Second dance. Also Kolo Festival EP 106 B "Katanka". 7/16 time: Step R (2/16); step L (2/16); Step R, bending R knee (3/16). For teaching purposes it may be counted 1, 2, 3 with the 3 accented.

Formation: Two cpls dancing anywhere in hall. Ptrs stand opposite, facing each other, about 6 to 8 ft apart (see diagram). M(1)

At start, Handkerchief is held by both hands behind back (hip level).

W(2)

M(2)

W(1)

Steps: Basic Step: Step R(ct 1). Step L (ct 2). Step R (accent), bending R knee (ct 3). Next step would start with L. Danced in place, turning or moving. As dance progresses, experienced dancers may add flourishes to basic step. Start each figure on R ft. There are many figures that may be used for Katanka, but only 4 common ones are given here. It is not necessary to use figures in order given. Sequences may be repeated. M(1), the leader, should signal start of new sequence by wave of handkerchief in R hand. M(1) starts action of each sequence.

Meas.

Pattern

Figure I

1-8 Dance 8 basic steps in place starting R. Handkerchief behind back during Fig. I and II.

9-12 All go to ctr on 4 basic steps.

13-16 All back up to place on 4 basic steps.

Figure II Changing Places

1-4 Cpl I change places on 4 basic steps. During figure always start R and pass R shoulders. Cpl 2 dance in place.

5-8 Cpl 2 change places on 4 basic steps. Cpl I turn 1/2 R (CW) to face ctr on 4 basic steps.

9-12 Cpl I return to place on 4 basic steps. Cpl 2 turn 1/2 R (CW) to face ctr on 4 basic steps.

13-16 Cpl 2 return to place on 4 basic steps. Turn R to face ctr on last basic step. Cpl I turn 1/2 turn R (CW) to face ctr on 4 basic steps.

Figure III Single Turn

1-8 Hold handkerchief by both hands in front at eye level. All turn R (CW) in place on 8 basic steps. Number of turns up to dancer but slow down on meas. 7-8 so that following change of direction is not too abrupt.

9-16 Turn L (CCW) in place on 8 basic steps.

Fig. IV Turn With Partner

1-8 Handkerchief again behind back. Cpl I dance to ctr on 2 basic steps and join R hands.* Back up to place on 2 basic steps. Cpl 2 dances in place. On turn, Handkerchief is held in inactive hand.

9-16 Repeat action of meas. 1-8 with Cpl 2 making the turn.

17-24 Repeat action of meas. 1-8. Cpl I make turn but join L hands. Turn L (CCW) under joined L hands.

*Add here: Make one turn to R (CW) under joined R hands on four basic steps.

(Continued)

Katanka (Continued)

Meas.

Pattern

25-32

Repeat action of meas. 1-8. Cpl 2 make turn but join L hands.

To fit the listed recording it is suggested that Fig. I-IV be danced as given twice through. The third time dance Fig. I, II, III and end with following pattern.

Fig. V All Circle

1-8

Using basic step, all move in and to L. As soon as possible, join hands and continue circling to L. Handkerchief hangs from R hand (even though it is joined with neighbor).