

Osmica

(Bulgaria)

Learned by Yves Moreau, Fall 1971, from village dance group in Marcevo, Mihaĵlovgrad District in N.W. Bulgaria. This dance contains the uncommon mixture of the two most popular Bulgarian dance types: the "Pravo" and the "Racenica." The favorite instruments of musicians in N.W. Bulgaira are the clarinet, fiddle and drum. One seldom sees gajda, gadulka and kaval. This is most probably due to the strong influence from nearby Romania.

Record: Worldtone WT-YM-002 A, Band 1. 2/4 and 7/16 meter.

Formation: Short lines of about 8 people - mixed or segregated. Back basket hold, R arm under, L arm over. Face ctr, wt on L foot.

Style: Knees bent slightly. Steps are small. Upper part of body is erect.

I.. Pravo - 2/4 meter

No introduction.

- 1 Moving straight back, step on R foot (ct 1). Step back on L (ct 2).
- 2 Step bkwd on R (ct 1). Raising L knee slightly, a light kicking action fwd with L foot (ct 2).
- 3 Step sdwd L on L (ct 1). Step on R in back of L (ct 2).
- 4 Step sdwd L on L (ct 1). Raising R knee slightly, a light kicking action fwd with R foot (ct 2).
- 5-6 Repeat pattern of measure 3-4, reversing direction and footwork.
- 7-8 Repeat pattern of measure 3-4, exactly.

II. Racenica - 7/16 meter (1-2, 1-2, 1-2-3; counted 1, 2, 3.)

Racenica Step: Wt on L ft, small leap fwd onto ball of R ft (ct 1). Two small running steps fwd L, R (cts 2, 3).

- 1-4 Four Racenica Steps moving fwd twd ctr.
- 5-7 Three Racenica Steps in place. (May also be done with slight sdwd motion) R, L, R.
- 8 Sharp stamp with L next to R, no wt (ct 1). Hold (cts 2, 3).

Note: The dance starts again with the Pravo pattern, but the L foot steps back and the footwork for both patterns is reversed.