

Popova Kerka

(Macedonia)

Literally, “the Priest’s Daughter,” this dance comes from the area around Florina in Northern Greece. It was presented by Yannis Konstantinou who comes from a family of excellent dancers from Alona. It is an interesting 11-measure dance which reminds me of *Zhenska Raka* and parts of *Nevestinsko Oro*.

Pronunciation: POH-poh-vah KYEHR-kah

Music: 2/4 meter *Balkan I 2010 Steve’s Dances CD, Band 1*

Formation: Open circle; hands joined in V-pos. (“Stand up tall—you are Macedonian!”)

Meas 2/4 meter

Pattern

8 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

DANCE

- 1 Facing R of ctr, step fwd R (ct 1); touch L beside R (ct 2).
- 2 Step fwd L (ct 1); touch R beside L (ct 2).
- 3 Step fwd R (ct 1); step fwd L (ct 2).
- 4 Turning to face slightly L of ctr, step R to R (ct 1); touch L beside R (ct 2).
- 5 Step fwd L twd ctr, turning to face slightly R of ctr (ct 1); touch R beside L (ct 2).
- 6 Step bkwd on R turning to face slightly L of ctr (ct 1); touch L beside R (ct 2).
- 7 Facing slightly L, step fwd on L (ct 1); step R with slight delay/drag across in front of L (ct 2).
- 8 Facing ctr, step L to L and slightly back bringing arms slowly up to W-pos (ct 1); lift slightly on L (ct 2).
- 9 Step bkwd on R (ct 1); lift slightly on R (ct 2).
- 10 Repeat meas 7, bringing arms back down to V-pos.
- 11 Turning to face slightly R of ctr, step L to L and slightly back (ct 1); touch R beside L (ct 2).

Note: Step-Touches can become Step-Lifts lifting the free ft up and behind, but close to the supporting leg. Step-Touches/Lifts may also become subtle Two-Steps (cts 1,&2) (QQS) either traveling (meas 1 and 2) or in place during Step-Touch/Lifts in place. During meas 7 and especially during meas 10, Yannis often did a subtle STEP-hop-step while travelling to the L (S,Q,Q) whereby he accented the L step slightly. Mix and match variations as you choose.

Presented by Stephen Kotansky