### PRESKAČANKA (prehs-KAH-chahn-kah)
(Bulgaria)

Learned by Yves Moreau, Fall 1971, from village dance group in Gecovo, Razgrad District, N.E. Bulgaria. Preskačanka belongs to the family of the well-known Pajdusko Horo danced throughout Bulgaria and Macedonia. This version is very popular among the "kapanci" people. The "Kapanci" are said to be direct descendants of the early Bulgarian settlers ("protobulgarians") who came from the Volga River area with their leader Asparoukh in the 5th century A.D. The term "Kapanci" is derived from "na kapki" referring to the special "dotted" embroidery stitch found on their costumes. The "Kapanci" live primarily in about 20 distinct villages situated around the towns of Razgrad, Sumen, and Targoviste in N.E. Bulgaria. They have many special dances, songs, and rituals. The "Kapanci" wedding is especially colorful.

Record:      Worldtone WT-YM-003 A. 5/16 meter. 1-2, 1-2-3.
             Counted here as: 1,2.

Formation:   Short lines of M and W mixed, hds joined down at sides.
             Face ctr, wt on L.

Style:       Kapanski styling is sort of a mixture of quick North Bulgarian
             movements with that special touch of Dobrudjan-like heavi-
             ness. There is therefore a slight knee bend during the dance.
             The arm movements are firm.

| Meas | Pattern |
|------|---------|

No Introduction music; dance may start at beginning of any musical phrase.

**I. NA MJASTO (In Place)** (nah mee-YAHS-toh)

1    Step on R in front of L, simultaneously arms swing fwd about parallel to floor (ct 1). Shift wt back on L ft in place, arms start swinging bkwd (ct 2).

2    Step bkwd on R, arms swing bkwd (ct 1). Step on L in place, arms start swinging fwd (ct 2).

3    Repeat pattern of meas 1, exactly.

4    Small hop on L ft, arms swing bkwd (ct 1). Small step on R slightly to R, arms start swinging fwd (ct 2).

5-8  Repeat pattern of meas 1-4, reversing ftwork.

**II. NAOKOLO (Around)** (nah-OH-koh-loh)

1    Small hop on L in place, hands swing fwd (ct 1). Step fwd on R, arms start swinging bkwd (ct 2).

2    Small leap fwd onto L ft next to R, hds swing bkwd (ct 1). Small step fwd on R, arms start swinging fwd (ct 2).

3-8  Repeat pattern of meas 1-2, Fig. II, alternating ftwork. Describe a CW oval floor pattern, i.e., move fwd, to R, bkwd and to L, ending in original pos. (2 meas for each direction.)

PRESKAČANKA (continued)

### III.  NAPRED - NAZAD (Forward and Back)  (nah-PRED nah-ZAHD)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Step on R crossing in front of L, simultaneously hds come up to "W" pos, slightly fwd, but forearms point to L (ct 1).  Shift wt back on L ft in place, forearms remain pointing to L (ct 2). |
| 2 | Step to R with R, forearms now point to R (ct 1).  Small step fwd on L, forearms remain pointing to R (ct 2). |
| 3-4 | Repeat pattern of meas 1-2, Fig. III, exactly. |
| 5 | Small hop on L ft in place, hds start moving fwd and upward (ct 1). Step on R in front of L, hds move downward (ct 2). |

NOTE:  During meas 5-16 hds and arms swing rhythmically bkwd and fwd.  The arms go bkwd as far as comfortable.  On the fwd movement the arms come up until they are parallel to the floor. On ct 1 of meas 7,9,11,13, and 15 the arms are fwd.  On ct 1 of meas 8,10,12,14, and 16 the arms are bkwd.  On ct 2 of meas 5-16 arms are in motion.

| | |
|---|---|
| 6 | Shift wt back on L ft in place (ct 1).  Shift wt onto R ft in place (ct 2). |
| 7-8 | Repeat pattern of meas 5-6, Fig. III, reversing ftwork. |
| 9 | Small hop on L ft in place (ct 1).  Step bkwd on R (ct 2). |
| 10 | Still moving bkwd, repeat pattern of meas 9, Fig. III, reversing ftwork. |
| 11-12 | Repeat pattern of meas 9-10, Fig. III. |
| 13 | Step on R crossing in front of L (ct 1).  Shift wt back onto L (ct 2). |
| 14 | Small hop on L ft in place (ct 1).  Small step on R to R (ct 2). |
| 15-16 | Repeat pattern of meas 13-14, Fig. III, reversing ftwork. |

NOTE:  Leader calls each figure at will, preferably in the above sequence.

Presented by Yves Moreau