STANKINO ORO

Macedonia

Stankino oro (STAHN-kee-noh O-roh, "dance named for Stanka [girl's name]"), is a line dance from the town of Edhessa (Slavic name: Voden) in that portion of Macedonia now included in Greece. The dance is described here as performed by a group of men from that region who now live in Yugoslav Macedonia and were filmed by Bob Leibman at a folk-dance festival in 1971. As danced by this group, Stankino oro differs in certain details from the version some U.S. and Canadian folk dancers are already familiar with (described in the notes accompanying the record listed below).

Structurally, Stankino oro is a member of the pravo/lesno family of 3-measure dances. It is a rare example of this dance-type in 11/16 meter.

Recording: Folkraft LP-15, side A, bd. 4, Stankino.

Rhythm and meter: Stankino oro is in a slow-quick-slow rhythm (3 dancer's beats per measure) and may be notated in 11/16 meter:

Rhythm: S Q S Dancer's beats: 1 & 2 3 & 11/16 notation:

Formation: M in open circle or line; arms on neighbors' nearest shoulders. Leader may flourish handkerchief in free R hand.

MEAS ACTION

Part 1 - Slow

- Facing slightly R of ctr and moving in LOD: step Rft fwd (1); slight bounce (čukče) on Rft, bringing Lft across in front with L knee bent (&); place Lft flat on floor fwd beyond Rft, pressing firmly as if stepping but actually only sharing wt momentarily with Rft (2); without moving Lft from this position, shift full wt onto Lft, flexing L knee slightly (3); čukče in place, moving Rft in air in LOD in preparation for next step (&).
- Facing ctr, step Rft sideward R (1); čukče on Rft in place, bringing L knee high across in front, L ankle turned in (2); čukče on Rft in place, beginning to lower Lft in preparation for next step (3).
- 3 Step Lft slightly backward (i.e. away from ctr) (1); čukče on Lft in place, bringing Rft around and up in back so that R ankle is behind L knee (2); čukče on Lft in place, beginning to lower Rft in preparation for next step (3).

(continued)

Part 2 - Fast

The music accelerates, and at a given point (which may be signalled by the leader) the dancers change to the following fast variation of Part 1. Note: All "steps" below are running steps.

(upbeat) Preliminary hitch-hop on Lft, turning to face in LOD (ah-)

- Step Rft fwd in LOD (1); hop fwd on Rft, bringing Lft up
 across in front (2); step fwd on Lft (3); hitch-hop on
 Lft (ah-).
- Step Rft fwd in LOD (1); step Lft across in front of Rft (2); turning to face ctr, hitch-hop on Lft (ah-); facing ctr, do a "twizzle" step, as follows: step backward (away from ctr) on full Rft, leaving Lft in its previous position without wt pointed toward ctr and moving L ankle R in a tiny arc using the L sole as a pivot point (3); hitch-hop on Rft in place (ah-).
- Jump onto both feet apart, knees slightly bent, facing ctr (1); hop on Lft in place or moving very slightly to R, R knee bent and Rft in a position near or behind L ankle (2); hop again on Lft in place or very slightly to R, with Rft in same position as just described (3); do the preliminary hitch-hop described under "upbeat" at the beginning of this Part (ah-), and continue into meas 1 to repeat the figure.

Notes by Dick Crum