

Bebelevskovo horo

Bulgaria

This dance is from the Rhodope mountain region of Bulgaria. This region is known more for its singing and music than for its dancing, for two reasons - 1) the region is mountainous with few open flat places; 2) the region was held the longest by Ottoman Turkey, which restricted outdoor and group activity.

This dance was learned by Petur Iliev in the Rhodope village of Siroka Luka in 1992 and is done on all occasions. Petur first introduced this dance in 1995 at various institutes and camps, including L.I.F.E.

TRANSLATION: Bebelev refers to a person characteristic of this region who acts in a very deliberate, but also very casual and relaxed manner.

PRONUNCIATION: beh-beh-LEH-kohv-skoh hoh-roh

TAPE: Petur Iliev presents Bulgarian Folk Dances (blue & white label)

FORMATION: One open circle with M at the front of the circle in shldr hold ("T" pos); the W line which is in "W" pos, is joined to the M line with the last M and the first W holding a handkerchief between them.

STYLE: Rhodopi - deliberate but relaxed.

W hand gently move up and down during the dance. M movements are much stronger than W. Knees bent and flex throughout dance.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: Drum solo + 2 meas.

FIG. I:

- 1 Facing R of ctr - step R,L moving diag R twd ctr (cts 1-2).
- 2 Step R diag R twd ctr (ct 1); small bounce on R (inside your shoe) as L lifts bkwd (ct 2).
- 3 Repeat meas 2 with L, moving diag R twd ctr.
- 4-6 Repeat ftwk of meas 1-3, moving diag R bkwd out of circle.
- 7 Facing ctr - step R fwd (rock) (ct 1); step L bkwd (rock) (ct 2).
- 8 Step R fwd (rock) (ct 1); small bounce on R (inside your shoe) as L lifts fwd in prep (ct 2).
- 9 Touch L heel fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 10-12 Repeat meas 7-9 with opp ftwk. (rock L fwd, R bk; L fwd; tch R fwd)

PART II:

- 1 Facing R of ctr and moving in LOD - step R fwd (ct 1); hop on R as L lifts beside L ankle (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk in LOD.
- 3 Step R fwd on ball of ft (ct 1); quickly close L to R on full ft (ct ah); step R fwd as L lifts beside R ankle (2).
Note: Cts 1-ah are very quick, ct 2 is slower; M accent steps.
- 4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk in LOD.
- 5 Large step R fwd with a down up motion as L lifts bkwd (M lift L behind R calf) (ct 1-2).
- 6 Facing ctr - step L bkwd (ct 1); bounce on L as R lifts beside L in prep (ct 2).
- 7 Touch (M stamp) full R ft beside L, bent knees; toe points to R (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 8 Touch (M stamp) full R ft slightly fwd, toe pointes twd ctr (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

SEQUENCE: Fig. I is danced until the leader designates the change, then Fig. II is done until the end of the music.

Presented by Petur Iliev

Original dance notes by Rick Speer