

DANCU (DAH-ntsooh)

A dance of the Vlah (Romance language speaking) population in northeastern Serbia near the town of Negotin. The dance is of the Devojačko kolo type (1101/1101), structurally similar to many Serbian dances including Šetnja, Sarajevka kolo and Pljeskavac.

SOURCE: The dance was first learned from a film I made of a Sept. 10, 1967 performance at the Beograd sabor by a group of villagers from the village of Halovo. I later saw and filmed its performance by villagers at a wedding in the village of Veliki Jasenovac. Both villages are located south of Negotin.

RECORD: Balkan Arts BA 702, Side A, band 1. (now out of print)

FORMATION: Open circle of mixed men and women--alternating men and women for stage-- with the leader on the right. On stage, it was performed with hands joined and held down in "Y" position. In the village, hands were joined and held low or high (almost at shoulder height.)

METER: 2/4

DESCRIPTION:

- I. 1. Face right of center. **Step R to right (CCW).**
2. **Hop or lift on R.** Free L begins to step across in front of R.
- II. 1. **Step L across in front of R and somewhat into the center.**
2. **Hop or lift on L.**
- III. 1. **Step on R to right and a bit back.**
2. **Step L by R or even slightly behind.**
- IV. 1. **Step on R to right and back.**
2. **Lift on L in place.** Kick free L low forward, or slightly across in front of R.
- V. 1. **Step L by R.**
2. **Lift or bounce on R in place.** Kick free R low forward, or slightly across in front of L.
- VI. 1. **Step R by L.**
2. **Lift or bounce on L in place.** Kick free L low forward, or slightly across in front of R.
- VII. 1. **Step L by or slightly forward of R.**
2. **Step R by L.**
- VIII. 1. **Step L by or slightly forward of R.**
2. **Hop or lift on L and turn a bit to face right of center.** Free R may be shoved out a bit to the right in preparation for the next step.

NOTE: Knees are soft and flexed on every count so the dance is bouncy. Steps are all on the flat foot or on the ball of the foot with the heel slightly off the ground. The men's steps can be broader and looser. The women are always very straight, but the men may bend a bit.

Presented by Bob Leibman at the 1985 Kolo Festival.

(6/85; rev. 11/85)