

Eski

(Bulgaria)

Eski is a dance from the region of Petrič (Macedonia), SW Bulgaria. It was learned by Yves Moreau from the late Toma Karaivanov, fall of 1969. The dance was originally done by men only. "Eski" means "old" or "ancient" in Turkish.

Pronunciation: ess-KEE

Music: Yves Moreau cassette YM-UOP-97, Side A/5

Rhythm: 4/4 + 2/4 meter (the 4/4 part is "stretched" and improvised)

Formation: Hands joined in W-pos for slow part, wt on L.

Styling: Large, slow steps. Traditionally, the lead dancer and drummer determine the pace of the dance. The dance is similar to other Macedonian forms with slow and fast parts such as "Gajda," "Pravoto," and "Teshkoto."

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. Short intro on zurna, no action.

I. SLOW PART (4/4)

- 1 Large step on R to R, extending L fwd (ct 1); step on L across R (ct 2); quick step on R to R (ct &); quick step on L across R (ct 3); quick step on R to R (ct &); quick step on L across R (ct 4).
- 2 Large step on R to R (ct 1); turning to face ctr, step on L with slight knee flexion, simultaneously raising R leg around and up, bent knee (ct 2); keeping R leg up, flex L knee slightly (ct 3); flex L knee again, sending R leg out to R and back (ct 4).
- 3 Step on R in place (ct 1); step on L slightly to R (ct &); step on R in front of L with slight knee flexion, simultaneously raising L leg, bent knee (ct 2); repeat meas 2, cts 3-4 (cts 3-4).
- 4 Facing ctr, quick step on L to L (ct &); quick step on R behind L (ct 1); step on L to L, simultaneously raising R knee (ct 2); flex R knee (ct 3); flex R knee again (ct 4).
- 5-20 Repeat meas 1-4, four more times.

II. FAST PART (2/4)

Note: Arms are down at sides.

- 1 Step on R in LOD (ct 1); hop on R, simultaneously extending L fwd (ct 2).
- 2 Step on L in LOD (ct 1); hop on L, simultaneously extending R fwd (ct 2); quick step on R in LOD (ct &).
- 3 Quick step on L in LOD (ct 1); step on R in LOD (ct 2).
- 4 Two running steps in LOD, L, R (cts 1,2).
- 5 Facing ctr, step on L (ct 1); small hop on L as R leg swings out and slightly behind L (ct 2).
- 6 Step back on R behind L (ct 1); swing L leg out and slightly behind R (ct 2).
- 7 Facing ctr, quick step on L to L (ct &); quick step on R behind L (ct 1); step on L to L (ct 2).
- 8 Step on R across in front of L (ct 1); step on L in LOD across R (ct 2).
- 9-64 Repeat meas 1-8 seven more times until end of music.

Presented by Yves Moreau