

## Two dances from Medjimurje

### Ki su dečki crieneši and Dosla sam vam japa dimo

(Croatia)

Ki su dečki crieneši translates as “the healthy looking guys” and Dosla sam vam japa dimo translates as “Father, I came home.” These two dances and songs are from the region of Medjimurje, located between the Drava and Mura rivers and the Hungarian border. There are relatively few facts about the dances of Medjimurje dating from the 19th century, whether by Croatian or Hungarian ethnomusicologists. During the Austro-Hungarian occupation of this area, people were prohibited from maintaining their customs and dances. For this reason, solo singing became the only outlet for preserving the culture. Following WW II, those songs were used as a foundation for the creation of many new national dances, rooted in the peasant dances of other bordering cultures, including the polka and csárdás. Dances are often accompanied by singing and orchestras comprised of cymbal, violin, clarinet, and bass, and sometimes the tambura orchestra. Željko Jergan did research throughout the Medjimurje region from 1972 to 1975.

**Pronunciation:**   kee soo DEHCH-kee CHEHR-leh-NEH-shee  
DOHSH-lah sah-m vahm JAH-pah DEE-moh

**Cassette:**           Croatian Dances 1998 Side B/4; Croatian Folk Dances Vol. 2, by Jerry Greovich Side B/4  
4/4/ and 2/4 meter

**Formation:**       Ki su dečki crieneši: Cpls (W on M R side) in a closed circle with pinkies joined in W-pos.  
Dosla sam vam japa dimo: Cpls face ctr with hands on hips.  
Shldr shldr-blade pos: M L hand on W R upper arm, and R hand on shldr blade. W R hand on M L shldr, and L hand on M R upper arm.

**Steps:**           Hop: When hopping, free ft lifts slightly fwd low to the floor.  
Bokazo: Facing ctr, jump onto balls of both ft with R across L, wt evenly distributed on both ft (ct 1); jump onto both ft in stride pos (ct &); close ft together sharply (ct 2). Rhythm: Q Q S.  
Double csárdás to L: Step on L to L (ct 1); step on R beside L (ct &); step on L to L (ct 2); close R beside L, no wt (ct &); Note: flex knees on each step, very bouncy. Repeat with opp ftwk for a “double csárdás to R.”

**Styling:**       Ki su dečki crieneši: Bouncy with fluid knees. Hands move up and down with body when in closed circle formation.

Dosla sam vam japa dimo: Part I, strong and flat-footed with heavy accent on csárdás.  
Part II, running and buzz step.

**Hands:** When hands are on the hips, for M they are slightly fwd on the hip bone with fingers fwd; for W, they are on the waist with fingers fwd.

Two dances from Medjimurje—continued

## Ki su dečki crieneši

<u>Meas</u>	<u>4/4 meter</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
2 meas	<u>INTRODUCTION.</u> With wt on both ft, flex knees 8 times	
	<u>DANCE: WALKS, CHUGS, CPL TURN, TURN ALONE</u>	
1	<u>Walks:</u> Facing L of ctr and moving in RLOD, walk fwd L, R, L (cts 1, 2, 3); hop on L as R lifts slightly fwd and low, turning to face R (ct 4).	
2	Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction. End facing ctr. (RLR-hop in LOD)	
3	Facing and moving twd ctr, walk L, R, L, hop (cts 1-4).	
4	Facing ctr and moving bkwd away from ctr, walk R, L, R, L (cts 1-4).	
5-6	<u>Chugs:</u> Facing ctr and dancing in place with hands on hips, step on R slightly fwd with accent (heavy) with bent knees (ct 1); chug bkwd on R (straighten knee) as L lifts slightly fwd and low (ct 2); repeat 3 more times alternating ftwk (4 in all) (cts 3-4, 1-2, 3-4).	
7-8	<u>Cpl turn:</u> Releasing hands with rest of circle, cpls turn 1/4 (M R, W L) to face ptr and join in shdr shldr-blade pos. Do 4 buzz steps, beg R across L, accenting R. Turn CW.	
9	Releasing cpl pos, and turning to face with pinkies joined, walk R, L, R, hop bkwd. L lifts slightly fwd on hop.	
10	<u>Turn alone:</u> Releasing hands, step fwd on L, clapping hands (ct 1); step R, L, R turning individually CCW in place. End facing ptr. Clap hands so that L hand moves above head level as R hand moves down to waist level. Hands remain in that pos for the rest of the turn.	
11-40	Repeat meas 1-10 three more times (4 in all).	

## Dosla sam vam japa dimo

<u>Meas</u>	<u>2/4 meter</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
	<u>INTRODUCTION.</u> None, a change of tunes denotes the change of dance.	
I.	<u>STEP-HOPS, RUNS, BOKAZO</u>	
	Facing ctr with hands on hips, knees are bent (in plié) slightly throughout dance.	
1	<u>Step-hops:</u> Step on L in place (ct 1); hop on L as R lifts low in front of L (ct &); repeat cts 1, & with opp ftwk (cts 2, &). (L-hop, R-hop)	
2	Step L, R, L in place with accent (cts 1, &, 2); hop on L in place as R lifts in front of L (ct &).	
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk. (R-hop, L-hop, RLR-hop) Note: Steps are heavy and done with an accent.	
5-6	<u>Runs:</u> Cpls close circle and join pinkies joined in V-pos. Facing L of ctr and moving in RLOD, do 6 light runs fwd L, R, L, R, L, R (on balls of ft) with free ft kicking bkwd (cts 1, &, 2, &, 1, &); jump onto both ft, turning to face R of ctr (ct 2); hold (ct &).	
7-10	Repeat twice more alternating ftwk and direction (3 times in all—run to L, then R, then L).	
11	Facing R of ctr and moving in LOD, run fwd R, L, R, L (cts 1, &, 2, &).	
12	Facing ctr, do a bokazo (RxL).	

## Two dances from Medjimurje—continued

II. CSÁRDÁS. STEP-STAMPS. STEP-STAMPS WITH TURNS

Cpls facing ctr in a closed circle with hands joined in V-pos.

- 1 Csárdás: Beg L, do a double csárdás L, moving bkwd diag L. Steps are sharp drmeš-style steps.
- 2-4 Repeat meas 1, still moving away from ctr, while alternating ftwk and direction, three more times (4 in all), except on last ct, stamp L in front of R with toes pointed twd R, no wt.
- 5 Step-stamps: Step on L in place, facing slightly L of ctr (ct 1); stamp R in front of L with toes pointed twd L, no wt (ct &); repeat step-stamp with opp ftwk and direction (R, stamp L) (cts 2, &).
- 6 Facing ctr, step L, R, L in place (cts 1, &, 2); stamp R in front of L with toe pointed twd L, turning to face L of ctr, with wt (ct &).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6 with opp ftwk. (R-stamp, L-stamp, RLR-stamp)
- 9 Step-stamp with turns: Repeat meas 5 (L-stamp, R-stamp).
- 10 Releasing hands and placing them on hips, step L, R, L turning CW once in place (cts 1, &, 2); stamp R in front of L with toes pointed twd L, no wt, facing L of ctr (ct &).
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10 with opp ftwk, turn CCW in place, rejoin hands during meas 9 (stamps).

Repeat Part I-II of second dance again (2 times in all).

ENDING

- 1 Dancing in place, stamp R, L, shouting “sej, haj.”
- 2 Stamp L, R, L, shouting “šu haj, haj.”

Original description by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw  
Presented by Željko Jergan

## Two dances from Medjimurje—continued

K I S U D E Č K I Č R L E N E Š I

Kisu dečki črleneši,  
 Marici su povolneši,  
 Kisu dečki črleneši,  
 Marici su, Marici su povolneši.

Marica je fajn snešica,  
 Njoj se šika poculica,  
 Marica je fajn snešica,  
 Njoj se šika, njoj se šika poculica.

Nosi krčmar holbu vinca,  
 Kaj bu pila ma Marica,  
 Nosi krčmar holbu vinca,  
 Kaj bu pila, kaj bu pila ma Marica.

D O Š L A S A M V A M J A P A D I M O

Došla sam vam japa dimo, kaj bom domaj celo zimo.  
 Šaj raj raj raj raj raj raj, šaj raj raj raj raj raj raj! /2x

De si bila čerka moja, zela tebe je nevolja.  
 Saj raj ....

Išla sam vam japa malo, sa dečkima na Poljaro.  
 Saj raj ....