

Kokice^v

Bulgaria (Western Thrace)

Kokice (koh-KEE-ehh), from the region of Panagjurište in Western Thrace, was learned by Yves Moreau from Cvetan Cvjatkov in Pazardzik in January 1970. Rhythmically the dance is of the same group as Gankino, Kopanica, and Krivo Horo. Yves taught the dance at the 1970 Mendocino Folklore Camp and the 1983 Kolo Festival.

Music: LP Record: Balkanton BHA-734, Side I, Band 5.

Rhythm: 1 1/16 meter = 2/16+2/16+3/16+2/16+2/16, counted here as 1,2, 3,4,5 or Q,Q,S,Q,Q.

Formation: Short mixed lines facing diag R of ctr with belt hold, L over R, or hands joined down in V-pos.

Styling: Small, sharp, and light steps, as in Gankino and in other West Thracian dances (Sedi Donka, Bucimis, etc.).

Measures 1 1/16 meter

PATTERN

8 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

TRAVELING STEP (precedes each figure)

1-2 Facing and moving in LOD, step R, L (cts 1,2); lift on L, raising R ft slightly across L shin (ct 3); step R, L (cts 4,5). Repeat cts 1-5.

I. OSNOVNO (Basic Step)

3 Turning to face ctr, step on R in LOD (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3); lifting on R, close L to R and bounce twice on both ft (cts 4,5).

4 Continuing to face ctr, repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk and direction.

II. GRADI (Building or Adding)

3 Turning to face ctr, step on R in LOD (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3); lift on R, bent knees together, raising L ft to L side near ankle, toe fwd and heel turned out (ct 4); step on L beside R (ct 5).

4 Repeat meas 3, cts 4,5 with opp ftwk (cts 1,2); thrust L ft fwd slightly to L with knee straight (ct 3); hop on R (ct 4); step on L behind R (ct 5).

III. BIJ OTPRED (Hit Forward)

3 Turning to face ctr, step on R in LOD (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); step on R to R, pointing R ft slightly R of ctr (ct 3); bending fwd from the waist, touch L toe next to R (ct 4); step on L slightly twd ctr, pointing ft slightly L of ctr (ct 5).

4 Repeat meas 3, cts 4,5 with opp ftwk (cts 1,2); straightening body, thrust L ft fwd slightly to L with knee straight (ct 3); hop on R (ct 4); step on L behind R (ct 5).

IV. NA MJASTO (In Place)

- 3 Turning to face ctr, step on R in LOD (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); step on R to R, while kicking L ft out to side with knees close together (ct 3); click L ft to R ft sharply (ct 4); hold (ct 5).
- 4 Hold (cts 1-2); thrust L ft fwd slightly to L with knee straight (ct 3); hop on R (ct 4); step on L behind R (ct 5).

V. S LEVJA (With the Left)

- 3 Turning to face ctr, step on R in LOD (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); leap onto R, raising L knee fwd (ct 3); touch L heel diag fwd (ct 4); hold (ct 5).
- 4 Repeat cts 4,5 (cts 1,2); thrust L ft fwd slightly to L with knee straight (ct 3); hop on R (ct 4); step on L behind R (ct 5).

VI. STRANI SKOČI (Side Leaps)

- 3 Turning to face ctr, step on R in LOD (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2); keeping knees together, leap low onto R to R (ct 3); leap onto L to L (ct 4); pause (ct 5).
- 4 Leap onto R to R (ct 1); pause (ct 2); leap on L to L (ct 3); touch R heel diag fwd to R (ct 4); pause (ct 5).

SEQUENCE: Usually the leader calls changes in Figs I to VI, which always alternate with the TRAVELING STEP. There are 18 eight measure phrases in the BHA-734 music, with a two measure break after the 9th phrase. Yves called Figs I-VI four times each, adding an additional TRAVELING STEP during the break, half-way through Fig V. After Fig VI (phrase 12), the Figures were repeated in order, twice each. With hands joined in V-pos, Figs I-VI may be danced interchangeably by individual dancers.