

KOSO MOJA

Serbia

Notes by Dick Crum for Aman Institute 94

Koso moja (koh'-soh moh'-yah, 'my hair') is a dance from the upper Gruža district in central Serbia. It takes its name from the first line of a song whose melody is used to accompany it.

Recordings Dances of Serbia, DOS 8402, *Koso moja*; Folkraft LP 53, *Koso moja*.
Meter 2/4
Formation Men and women in an open circle. Hands joined down at sides ("V" formation).

Meas	Count	Action
1	1	Facing center or very slightly R of center, step Rft slightly R, stressing ball of foot and straightening R knee somewhat.
	&	Step Lft beside and slightly forward of Rft, on ball of foot, L knee flexed somewhat.
	2	Repeat movements of counts 1, & (2, &), continuing to move R.
2		Repeat movements of meas 1, for a total of 8 tiny steps to R.
3	1	Facing center, step Rft slightly R, with noticeable flex of R knee. hold
	2	Light, almost leaping step with Lft in place.
	&	Step Rft across in front of Lft.
(The step in meas 3 is reminiscent of the famous Israeli "Yemenite" step, though it is more restricted and done with very erect upper body.)		
4		Still facing center, 4 tiny steps in place, L-R-L-R (counts 1 & 2 &).
The steps in meas 4 can be taken in practically any spot close to the other foot, and are subject to much improvisation on the part of native dancers. See below for sample variations.		
5		Same as meas 3, with opposite footwork.
6	1	Step Rft in place.
	&	Step Lft in place.
	2	Step Rft across in front of Lft.
7-12		Repeat entire pattern of meas 1-6 to L with opposite footwork.

Koso moja (concluded)

Sample Variation #1 for meas 4:

Step Lft in place (1); step Rft slightly R (&); step Lft again in same place as ct. 1 (2);
step Rft in front of Lft (&).

Sample Variation #2 for meas 4:

Step Lft in place (1); step Rft beside Lft (&); step Lft in front of R (2); step Rft in place
behind Lft (&).

Done with opposite footwork, either of these variations can be done in
meas 10.