

## Kujawiak

(Poland)

Kujawiak is a Polish national dance originated in the Kujawy region. It is done in a slow tempo in 3/4 meter, accompanied by lyrical melodies. In its different phases of development Kujawiak featured many variants and ways of dancing.

Pronunciation: koo-YAH-vee-yahk

Cassette:

3/4 meter

Formation: Double circle with M facing, W back to center. Partner diagonally across to the left. Kerchief on W's shoulders.

Steps: Kujawiak steps (Kuj/step) are done smoothly, without accents, forward or with turns either to the right or left with 3 steps per measure beginning from the toes. Step alternates. A kerchief (optional) may be used in this arrangement as a typical "prop" used often in its "authentic" version.

### Meas

### Pattern

1-4 INTRODUCTION. All join L hands with ptr, R with M/W diag across to the R.

#### PART I. CIRCLE LOD, RLOD.

1-2 Beginning with M R, W L, all move with 2 Kuj/step in LOD.

3-4 Balance in LOD and RLOD.

5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.

7-8 Release R hand with neighbor and with 2 Kuj/steps, do 1 CCW couple turn in place with L hands joined in front, W to R of ptr. M embraces W from behind with R hand. End with W inside of the circle, back to ctr.

9-14 Beginning with M L, W R, repeat meas 1-6 in RLOD.

15-16 With joined L hands do 1/2 CCW couple turn (as in meas 7); in the last meas, ptrs facing, M back to ctr. W puts the kerchief with R hand around M's neck.

#### PART II. "SPIACA." MAN CLAPS THIGH, HEEL.

Spiaca (shpee-OHN-tsah) = sleepy.

1-4 Woman places both hands on M's R shldr and rest head on them. M takes the kerchief to his L hand, with L arm straight sdwd. Beginning with M L, W R, both circle in place in CW direction with one step per meas (meas 1,2); and 3 steps (meas 3) (as if to "pick-up" the tempo). In meas 4, both end facing LOD, W to R of ptr with L hand still on his shldr, R on her waist.

5 In an open position, do 1/2 CW couple turn moving slightly in LOD with 1 Kuj/step. M puts the kerchief on his L shldr.

6 Woman continues Kuj/step with another 1/2 CW couple turn and moving in LOD. M begins turn with R ft (ct 1); raise R knee high and clap thigh (ct 2); continue turn in this position.

7 Another 1/2 CW couple turn as in meas 5. M's L arm sdwd.

8 Repeat meas 6, except M claps his raised L heel.

9-12 Repeat meas 1-4 beginning with the same ft, except in CCW direction. W's head on M's L shldr (and kerchief).

13-16 Repeat meas 5-8.

## Kujawiak - continued

PART III. TOWARD AND AWAY FROM PARTNER. BALANCE AND TURNS.

- 1-2 With joined R hands overhead (holding kerchief between), do 3 short steps fwd to the R of ptr beginning with R ft (meas 1), L fist on own hip, then away from ptr (meas 2).
- 3-4 Embrace ptr with L arm and with 3 steps do 1/2 CCW couple turn in place (kerchief still overhead). W ends back to ctr. In meas 4, step away from ptr and to his/her L. Change hold (kerchief) to L hands.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 in opp direction (same ftwk).
- 9 M puts kerchief around W's neck and in closed position (M back to ctr) both step in LOD (to M L, W R) while leaning slightly in opp direction (ct 1); stamp slightly twice with opp ft (M R, W L)(cts 2,3).
- 10 Repeat meas 9 in RLOD beginning with opp ft.
- 11-12 Beginning with M L, W R, couple turns CW in LOD with 2 Kuj/steps.
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12. In the last meas do only 3/4 couple turn followed by an extra 1/2 CW turn for W, so both end facing LOD, W in front of ptr.

PART IV. FLIRT. BACK-TO-BACK.

- 1-2 With hands joined (R/R, L/L) at shldr level, ptrs move with Kuj/step in opp direction looking flirtatiously at each other. W begins with L ft and moves diagonally fwd twd ctr of the circle, M begins with R ft twd outside (meas 1); repeat with opp ftwk and direction (meas 2).
- 3-4 With L hands joined in front, R above head level, do 1 CCW couple turn in place with 2 Kuj/step. End facing LOD.
- 5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 7-8 As in meas 3, do 3/4 CCW couple turn in place. In the last meas, step away from each other to face (M back to ctr) and join inside hands (M L, W R). Kerchief in W's R hand.
- 9-10 With "outside" arms straight out to sides at about waist level, beginning with M L, W R, move fwd in LOD with 3 steps, turning back-to-back. Inside hands move fwd to about waist level (meas 9). In next meas do 3 more steps in LOD (begin M R, W L), return to facing position.
- 11-12 Woman turns under joined hands. Raise joined hands. M travels fwd in LOD with 2 Kuj/steps (6 steps beginning with L ft). W makes 2 CW turns with 6 steps under joined hands. M's L arm is still fwd, curved as if protecting ptr. W places R fist (with the kerchief) on her hip.
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12, except W turns only once (meas 15); both ptrs bend knees (meas 16).

INTRO

- 1-4 In meas 1-2 circle away from ptr with 2 Kuj/steps: M CCW twd ctr, W CW. Join L hands and make 1/2 CCW couple circle (meas 3). All join hands in a large circle as in the beginning of the dance (meas 4).

Repeat the whole dance from the beginning.

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