

# Lički tanac

Lika, Croatia

The enclosed plains of Lika are divided from the Adriatic coast by the Velebit mountain range to the south, on the east by Bosnia and to the north by the Pannonian plains. Despite centuries of Turkish domination, the inhabitants of the region have maintained their strong folk traditions, unchanged. The most popular dances are Ličko kolo and Lički tanac, which is done to the accompaniment of the dangućica (kind of a tambura). Željko Jergan researched this region from 1981 to 1983. He danced these dances while in Lado, the Croatian State Folk Ensemble, under the tutelage of Dr. Ivan Ivančan.

TRANSLATION: Dance from Lika

PRONUNCIATION: LEACH-key TAHN-nahts

MUSIC: "Croatian Folk Dances", Vol. 3, & "Treasury of Croatian Dances" by Jerry Grcevich  
"Sviraj svirče drmeša", CD by Skitnice

FORMATION: Individuals or lines of M and W facing; closed circle (Fig 3 and Fig 5).

HANDS: Individuals - hands with back of wrists on waist and elbows pushed slightly fwd, OR M tuck their thumbs in front of their own belts.  
Closed circle - hands are joined and down in "V" pos.

STEPS: Two-step beg L:  
Meas 1: Step L fwd - turn almost 1/4 CW (R) to face in (ct 1); almost close R to L (ct 2); step L fwd (ct 3); hold (ct 4).  
Meas 2: Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk - turn almost 1/2 CCW (L) to face out.  
Hands on waist.

STYLE: Very heavy and earthy.

NOTE: When two cts are noted together and one is underlined, the underlined ct is the action ct.

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METER: 4/4 (fast)

PATTERN

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Meas.

**INTRODUCTION:** 2 meas. - 4 chords

**FIG I: TWO-STEPS**

Individuals facing ctr, or if using lines twd ptr - hands on waist.

1 Moving L (RLOD) - beg L, do 1 two-step fwd - while turning to face in.

2-8 Repeat meas 1, continue to move to own L, alternating ftwk and direction facing (in or out).

**FIG. II: STEP-HOP IN PLACE**

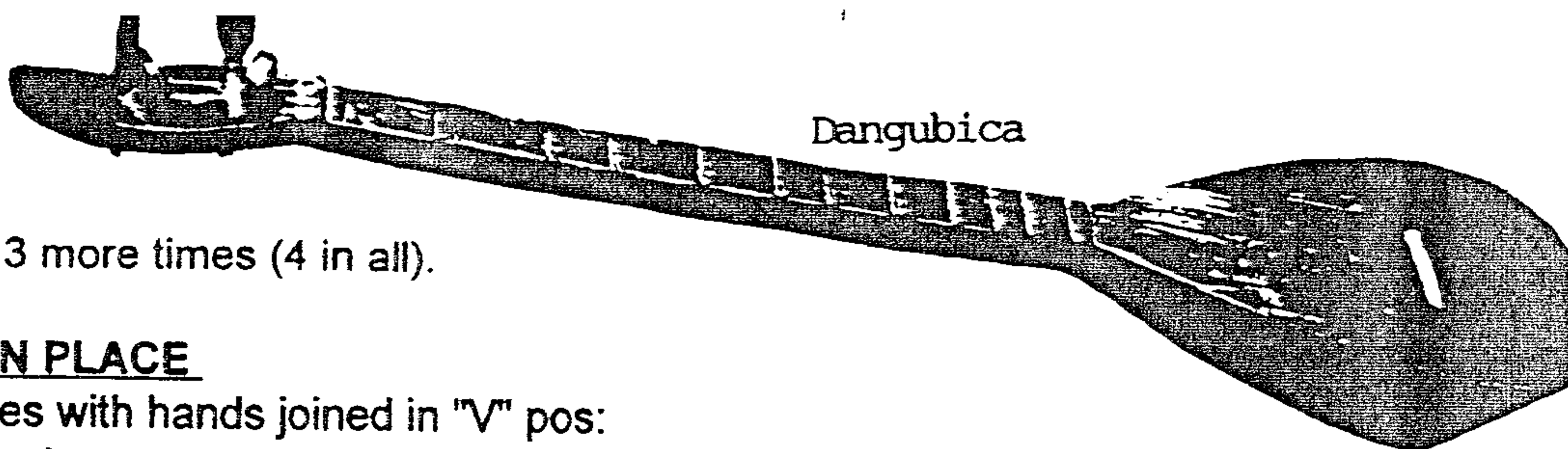
Individuals facing ctr with hands on waist and dancing in place:

1 Step-hop on L in place as R lifts in front of L (cts 1-2, 3-4).

Hands: On ct 3 raise hands to "W" pos and slightly fwd, and snap fingers on ct 3.

2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk, returning hands to waist and no snap.





3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

### **FIG. III: CHUGS IN PLACE**

Closed circle or lines with hands joined in "V" pos:

1 Hop on R 3-times as L extends fwd and touches floor on each hop (ct 1-3); drop on L in place as R lifts bkwd high (lower R leg parallel to floor) - hands swing bkwd (ct 4).

2 Chug fwd onto both ft (ct 1); chug slightly bkwd on L as R lifts bkwd (ct 2); chug fwd onto both ft (ct 3); chug on R in place as L lifts bkwd high (ct 4).

Hands: Swing fwd (ct 1); bkwd (ct 2); fwd (ct 3); bkwd (ct 4). The arm movements are sharp with the accent being on the fwd movement.

Note: During the above 2 meas the knees are continuously bent and/or flexing.

3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, 3 more times (4 in all).

### **FIG. IV:**

Individuals facing and moving twd ctr with hands on hips.

1 Drop fwd on R as L lifts bkwd high (cts 1-2); hop on R as L quickly lifts fwd in front of R with toe pointed diag L fwd (ft parallel to floor) (cts 3-4).

2 Hop fwd again on R as L remains lifted fwd (ct 1); step L fwd on heel then full ft (ct 2); step R fwd on heel then full ft, toe points twd R to beg a 1/2 CW (R) turn (ct 3-4).

Completing turn - drop on both ft with R in front of L (ct 1-2); drop fwd on R turning 1/2 CW (R) to face in (cts 3-4). You have now completed a full turn CW (R).

4 Leap L,R bkwd (ct 1-2); jump on both ft with R fwd of L (R heel at L instep with toes turned out (cts 3-4).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4, moving away from ctr and returning to where you started the from.

### **FIG. V: MOVE L & R**

Closed circle with hands joined in "V" pos.

1-2 Facing and moving in RLOD (to L) - walk R fwd (cts 1-2); close L to R with wt on balls of both ft (cts 3-4).

2 Repeat meas 1-2, except turn 1/2 CW (R) on cts 3-4. End facing LOD (R).

3 Step R, L bkwd in RLOD (cts 1-2); still moving bkwd - drop onto both ft (most of wt on R) with L fwd of R - R toe points diag R fwd, L toe straight ahead (cts 3-4).

4 In same pos - hop 2 twice on R as full L ft touches fwd on each hop (cts 1-2); drop onto L where it touched as R lifts bkwd high (cts 3-4).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with same ftwk moving fwd in LOD, except on last 2 cts drop again on R as L lifts bkwd high. End facing RLOD with wt on both ready to beg dance again.

Repeat dance from beg (3 times in all).



Dance notes by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw, 4-97  
Presented by Željko Jergan

