

# Mari Mariiko

(Bulgaria)

Mari Mariiko (mah-EE mah-REE-ee-koh), meaning "Dear Maria," is a "Pravo Rodopsko Horo" adapted to the song "Mari Mariiko." It is from the Rhodope Mountain area in Southern Bulgaria. The vocal on this recording is by Nadežda Hvojneva, one of Bulgaria's most outstanding singers in the typical gliding Rhodope singing style. Mr. Jaap Leegwater learned this dance in Bulgaria and presented it at various workshops and camps.

RECORD: Folk Dances from Bulgaria, Vol II BHA 11134 Side B/5. 2/4 meter

FORMATION: A closed or open circle of dancers, facing ctr, hands joined in "W" pos.

STEPS and STYLING: The dance is done in a calm, leisurely manner, almost solemnly.  
When action is described for cts 1-2, it should take 2 cts to complete, i.e., do not complete it on ct 1 and hold on ct 2 - make it smooth and flowing.

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MUSIC 2/4 meter PATTERN

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Measures

8 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. VOCAL

1 Facing ctr and moving sdwd R, step on R ft (ct 1); step on L ft across in front of R (ct 2).

2 Repeat meas 1.

3 Step on R ft sdwd R (ct 1); lift L ft and start moving it out and around behind R (ct 2).

4 Step on L ft behind R (cts 1-2).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

9 Step on R ft sdwd R (ct 1); step on L ft across in front of R (ct 2).

10-11 Repeat meas 3-4.

12-14 Repeat meas 9-11.

15 Step on R ft sdwd R, shifting full wt onto R ft but leaving L ft in place (cts 1-2).

16 Shift full wt onto L ft, leaving R ft in place (cts 1-2).

17-32 Repeat meas 1-16.

II. INSTRUMENTAL

1-2 Facing and moving diag R twd ctr, walk R,L,R,L (1 step to a ct).

3 Continuing to move diag R, dance a large step fwd on R ft, slightly bending both knees (ct 1); straighten knees and lift L ft beside R ankle (ct 2).

4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk.

5-8 Facing diag L of ctr, repeat ftwk of meas 1-4 but moving diag bkwd R twd rim of circle.

DANCE SEQUENCE: Dance the pattern as written 3 times plus Fig I once more.

(Lyrics to Mari Mariiko on following page)



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## LYRICS:

1. Mâri Marijko  
sorčice moe  
izlezi mâri  
utvon na dvora  
ta da ti vide  
čorni očinki  
čorno očinki  
dali sa čorni

2. Abre junače  
ludo i mlado  
podjuval li si  
po ravninana  
vidjudal li si  
čorna višnička  
mojne očinki  
dvaštriš po čorni

3. Mâri Marijko  
sevdjo golema  
izlezi mâri  
vâv ravna gradinka  
ta da ti vide  
belkunu lice  
belkunu lice  
dali e belku

4. Abre junače  
ludo i mlado  
podjuval li si  
na planinana  
vidjuval li si  
beli snegove  
moe e lice  
dvaš triš po belo