

Pirinska Igra

(Bulgaria)

Pirinska Igra (PEE-rihn-skah EE-grah) is a couple dance from the repertoire of the State Ensemble for Folk Songs and Dances in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. It was learned there by Marcus Moskoff in 1978 and taught by him at the 1982 Mendocino Folklore Camp. Marcus also presented it that same year at the San Diego State University Folk Dance Conference and at the North-South Folkdance Teachers' Seminar in Aptos, California.

RECORD: Marcus Moskoff Introduces Songs and Dances of Bulgaria MM 001 Side A/4.

RHYTHM: 7/16 meter: 1-2-3 (3/16), 1-2 (2/16), 1-2 (2/16). Counted here as 1,2,3.
Could also be cued as S,Q,Q.

FORMATION: Cpls in a circle facing LOD (CCW), W to R of M. Hands joined (R with R, L with L) and held out a little from bodies about waist level. MR arm over WL arm.

STYLING: Stepping first on the ball of the foot and then the full foot, do a plie on each step with a slightly deeper plie on ct 1 of each meas.

Ftwk same for M and W.

MUSIC 7/16

PATTERN

Measures

D 8 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. MOVING IN LOD

A 1 Step fwd on R (ct 1); small step fwd on L (ct 2); small step fwd on R (ct 3).

2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.

3 Step fwd on R (ct 1); lift R heel while bringing L leg fwd, knee bent (ct 2); step fwd on L (ct 3).

4 Repeat meas 1.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk.

II. TWIZZLE AND HEEL TAP

B 1-2 Release L hands and place on L hip, fingers fwd. Raise joined R hands above W head.
M: Step on R to R (ct 1); lift R heel while bringing L leg fwd, knee bent (ct 2); step on L across in front of R (ct 3). Step on R beside L and "twizzle" (swing both heels to R) to face diag fwd L (ct 1); step bkwd on L (ct 2); step on R in front of L (ct 3).

W: Turn once CW under joined hands: Step on R to R (ct 1); lift R heel (ct 2); step on L to complete 1/2 the turn (ct 3). Complete the turn by stepping R,L,R (cts 1,2,3).

3-4 Rejoin hands as before. Both repeat action of M meas 1-2 with opp ftwk.

- 5 Step bkwd on R (ct 1); step on L beside R (ct 2); step fwd on R (ct 3).
- 6 Step fwd on L (ct 1); lift R leg, knee bent, fwd in a CCW arc (ct 2); tap R heel in front of L ft, no wt, as L knee is bent (ct 3).
- 7 Straightening L leg, lift R leg fwd and into a CW arc (ct 1); step directly bkwd on R, bending both kneew deeply (ct 2); shift all wt onto R ft without changing pos (ct 3).
- 8 Standing upright, step bkwd on L (ct 1); step on R beside L (ct 2); step fwd on L (ct 3).

16 meas REPEAT FIG I AND II.

III. GRAPEVINE

- 1 Turning CCW as a cpl to face ctr, step on R to R side (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (ct 2); step on R to R side (ct 3). On ct 1 release L hands and place on hips, fingers fwd; raise joined R hands over W head to end over WR shldr about ear level. M should be slightly behind W at WL side.
- 2 Continuing, step on L across in back of R (ct 1); step on R to R side (ct 2); step on L across in front of R (ct 3).
- 3 Lifting L heel in preparation (ct ah); step sdwd R on R, bending R knee and bringing L leg, knee bent up and fwd in a CW arc (ct 1); holding bent L leg high in front, straighten R knee (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.
- D 1-8 Repeat meas 1-8 (Melody C).
- 48 meas REPEAT ENTIRE DANCE FROM BEGINNING (Figs I,II,I,II,III).

Description written November 1983.