

PLJESKAVAC I

Notes by Dick Crum for *žviLA TAMBURA '93*

Old-time musicians and dancers are unanimous in stating that *Pljeskavac I* ('clapping dance') appeared in dance events in Pittsburgh, Chicago, Cleveland and Detroit in the late 30's. It was still being danced in those cities, though rarely, in the 1950's. It was unknown in communities in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, where another dance with the same name was done. I have added the number "I" to the name to distinguish this *Pljeskavac* from the latter dance (see *Pljeskavac II*). (The order is arbitrary and chronological: I learned *Pljeskavac I* first.)

DESCRIPTION

Formation Open circle or chain of dancers, mixed male and female, hands joined down at sides ("V" position).

Meter 2/4

Part 1 - *Malo kolo* steps

Any of the variants of the *Malo kolo step*; by way of illustration, the *Simple Malo kolo step*, is given here.

Facing center throughout, and using flat-footed steps of short-to-medium length:

- | | | |
|----------|------|---|
| Meas 1 | ct 1 | Step Rft sideward to R. |
| | ct 2 | Close Lft beside Rft, taking weight on Lft. |
| Meas 2 | ct 1 | Step Rft sideward to R. |
| | ct 2 | Close Lft beside Rft without taking weight on Lft; or bring Lft a bit forward low in air. |
| Meas 3 | ct 1 | Step Lft sideward to L. |
| | ct 2 | Close Rft beside Lft, taking weight on Rft. |
| Meas 4 | ct 1 | Step Lft sideward to L. |
| | ct 2 | Close Rft beside Lft without taking weight on Rft; or bring Rft a bit forward low in air. |
| Meas 5-8 | | Repeat movements of measures 1-4. |

Part 2 - Step-closes, stamps and claps

Facing center throughout, and using flat-footed steps of short-to-medium length:

- | | | |
|------------|------|---|
| Meas 9 | ct 1 | Step Rft sideward to R. |
| | ct 2 | Close Lft beside Rft, without taking weight on Lft; or, swing Lft across in front of lower R leg. |
| Meas 10 | ct 1 | Step Lft sideward to L. |
| | ct 2 | Close Rft beside Lft without taking weight on Rft; or swing Rft across in front of lower L leg. |
| Meas 11-12 | | Repeat movements of measures 9-10 |
| Meas 13 | ct 1 | Standing on Lft, stamp Rft in place beside Lft, without taking weight on Rft. |
| | ct 2 | Stamp Rft again as in ct 1. |
| Meas 14 | ct 1 | Stamp Rft again as in ct 1 above. |
| | ct 2 | Pause. |
| Meas 15 | ct 1 | Standing on both feet, clap own hands in front. |
| | ct 2 | Clap again as in ct 1. |
| Meas 16 | ct 1 | Clap again as in ct 1 above. |
| | ct 2 | Pause. |