

Preplet

(Serbia)

I learned Preplet, as described here, in 1954 from Miodrag Vuković, a fine dancer from the village of Brus. It is actually a fixed sequence of typical U šest variations as done by the village "guys" (mangupi), and hence is sometimes called Mangupsko kolo. Preplet is a good example of the kinds of local and individual variations to which the dance U šest is subject.

Pronunciation: PREH-pleht

Music: 2/4 meter

Formation: Dancers (originally M only) in open circle or line, hands joined in V-pos. Leader's and end man's free hands are held either at small of back, in a pocket, or grasping vest.

Meas

Pattern

VARIATION I

- 1-2 8 tiny running steps R: facing slightly R, low short leap onto R toe to R, straightening R knee (ct 1); lightly stepping on ball of L ft, close L to R a bit fwd, slightly bending L knee (ct &); repeat cts 1, & three more times for a total of 8 running steps, ending with wt on L on last ct & of meas 2.
- 3 Facing ctr, step on ball of R ft, flexing R knee emphatically (ct 1); hold (ct &); step on L in place (ct 2); step on R in place (ct &).
- 4 Bring heels together (no click) and down (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

VARIATION II

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R to R, slightly stiffening R knee (ct 1); step on L behind R, slightly flexing L knee (ct &); step on R to R (ct 2); step on L in front of R (ct &).
- 2 Again step on R to R (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct &); step on R to R (ct 2).
- 3 Step on L in place beside R (ct 1); step on R behind L (ct &); step on L in place (ct 2).
- 4 Step on R in its position behind L (ct 1); step on L in its position in front of R (ct &); again step on R in its position behind L (ct 2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

VARIATION III

- 1 Facing slightly R, low light hop on L (ct 1); short step with R (ct &); close L to R a bit fwd (ct 2).
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1 two more times for a total of 3 times, continuing to move R.
- 4 Facing ctr and bringing R ft from a preliminary pos high out to side, slice R ft down in front of L ft and put wt on R ft (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct &); step on R in front (ct 2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

Original notes by Dick Crum

Presented by Dick Crum