

Stinjačko Kolo

Austria

During the sixteenth century Turkish invasion, many Croatians left their homeland finding safety in an isolated region in Burgenland, Austria, known to the Croatians that live there as Gradišće. Stinjaki (Stinatz) is a small Croatian township in Burgenland with about 1,300 inhabitants. It is very well known for its special traditional Croatian character in both language and customs. The musical life of Stinatz was very much influenced by Pastor Branko Kornfeind, a priest from Stinatz. Željko Jergan worked with the folklore ensemble, Stinjačko Kolo, from 1982 to 1984, while at the same time researching the folk life of the population of this region.

TRANSLATION: Circle dance from the village of Stinjaki (Stinatz)

PRONUNCIATION: steen-YACH-koh koh-loh

MUSIC: Tape: Croatian Folk Dances Vol 1, by Jerry Greevich, side A/3;
Treasury of Croatian Dances
CD: "Sviraj svirče drmeša," by Skitnice, track #6



FORMATION: Cpls in circle facing ptr with W back to ctr.

HANDS: Part I - Hold inside (MR-WL) hands or pinkies at shldr ht. ML hand in small of own back, WR hand on waist with fingers fwd.
Part II - Holding both hands.
Part III - Closed ballroom pos., modified so that M hold W in their R arm with the hand just below the W shldr blades, palm facing floor.

STYLE: Cat-like walking steps moving slowly up and down like a wave. Elegant waltz steps.

Ftwk described for M, W use opp ftwk.

METER: 4/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION:

Cpls face with MR-WL, pinkies joined at shldr. ht. M free arm is in small of own back, W hand on her waist with fingers fwd.

1-4 In this pos cpls slowly bend and straighten knees 4 times. End with most of wt on ML-WR ft in prep for next step.

FIG. I:

1-4 Facing CW - beg MR-WL (inside ft), do 7 steps fwd (cts 1-2; 1-2; 1-2; 1); bounce on R as L lifts low beside R (ct 2).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk moving bkwd (CCW). On bounce cpls turn to face ptr.

9-10 With W back to ctr and M facing W, cpls move sdwd (MR-WL) - with M step R to R (ct.1); close L beside R (ct.2). Step R to R (ct 1); touch L beside R (ct. 2). W use opp ftwk and direction.

11-12 Repeat meas 10-11 with opp ftwk and move sdwd in LOD.

13-14 With cpls facing and MR and WL pinkies joined at shldr ht - Meas 1: M step R bkwd (WL) away from ptr (cts 1-2). Meas 2: Step L fwd twd ptr - beg to join in ballroom pos (cts 1-2).

- 15-16 In ballroom pos - cpls do 2 pivot steps (M-RL, W-LR), on ct 1 of each meas, turning CW once in place (cts 3-4). End facing RLOD (CW)
Style note: Each pivot step has a down-up feeling (i.e., step with straight knee, then straighten knee, and repeat).

If two (2) women dance tog during meas 15-16, do the following:

Releasing pinkie hold and placing hands on hips - except turn in place individually. Outside W steps R,L and turns R (CW), inside W step L,R and turns L (CW)

FIG. II:

- 1-4 Repeat Fig. I, meas 1-4 (7 steps CW, beg inside ft), except on bounce, release hand and turn in $\frac{1}{2}$ twd ptr (MR-WL) to face CW.
- 5-8 Beg ML-WR (inside ft), rejoin inside pinkies and repeat ftwk of meas 1-4, moving bkwd (CW). Turn to face ptr on last ct.
- 9-10 Joining both pinkies with ptr, and moving sdwd (MR-WL), M step R to R (ct.1); close L beside R (ct 2). Step R to R (ct 1); touch L beside R (ct 2). W use opp ftwk.
Hands: Joining both pinkies with ptr, hands form a small circle on meas 9, then circle $\frac{1}{2}$ more so that arms end moving slightly twd MR, WL.
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10 with opp ft and hand movements.
- 13-14 With pinkies still joined with ptr - M step R bkwd (WL bk) as L extends fwd close to floor or touching floor-arms extend fwd at shldr ht (ct 1); M step L fwd (WR fwd) where L was extended fwd - beg to join in closed ballroom pos (ct 2).
- 15-20 Joined in closed ballroom pos - beg ML-WR, do 6 pivot steps (down-up feeling) while turning CW 3 times, while moving CCW. End facing CW.
- If two (2) women dance tog during meas 15-20, do the following:
- 15-16 Releasing hands and placing them on hips, outside W steps R-L - turning R (CW) and moving CCW, 1 time (step on ct 1 of each meas).
- 17-18 Outside W steps R to R (sway), then steps L to L (sway) (step on ct 1 of each meas)
- 19-20 Outside W step R-L -turning R (CW) and moving CCW, 1 time (step on ct 1 of each meas).

Note: During meas 15-16, inside W uses opp ftwk and turns in opp dir..

SEQUENCE:

Fig. I-II, I-II, I-II, meas 1-14 (step away and twd ptr).

ENDING:

- 15 With cpls facing - close ft tog.
- 16 M bow twd W (R hand across waist, L hand in small of back), as W curtsy (L ft behind R) while holding skirt slightly to side.

Dance notes by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw 4-97; rev. 3-02

Presented by Željko Jergan

