

# Trite Pâti

(Thrace, Bulgaria)

Trite Pâti means “the three times.” It is one of the most common dances, performed on any festive occasion in the Eastern Thracian ethnographic region. The only exception was during the 40 days of Lent before Easter when people were not allowed to dance in a closed circle. During that time the dance was done in an open circle. Usually, there is a leader (the best dancer in the circle, or the first one in the line) who calls the figures changing by yelling out the well known name of each part. The present version is from the village of Erkeč (new name- Kozičino), Burgas district. It is danced by women in an easy, low energy manner. The style is a specific mixture of Thracian and Dobrudžan due to the village location, on the ethnographic border between two main areas: Thrace and Dobrudža. The source is the Group for Authentic Dances from the village of Erkeč, Burgas district.

Pronunciation: TRIH-teh PAH-tih.

Cassette: Folk Dances from Bulgaria - NK 1994.02 / A1. 2/4 meter  
The musical pattern consists of 8 bars, whereas the dance goes in 10 bars. This periodic coincidence between music and dance phrase is one of the characteristics of Bulgarian folklore. Here, the overlap occurs on every 40th measure. Any other tune in 2/4 with similar musical structure and called Trite Pati can be used for this Thracian dance.

Formation: Closed circle, hands held in V-pos.

Styling: Thracian/Dobrudžan styling includes: knee and ankle bounces with emphasis up on each step, steps on whole ft. Arms swing fwd and bkwd at elbows.

## Meas

## Pattern

8 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

### FIGURE 1: PÂRVO (PUHR-voh)

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R in front of L, keeping wt on L, swing arms fwd low (ct 1); step on sdwd R on R, swing arms bkwd low (ct 2).
- 2 Step on L in front of R, keeping wt on R, swing arms fwd low (ct 1); step on sdwd L on L, swing arms bkwd low (ct 2).
- 3 Repeat meas 1.
- 4 Step on L in front of R, keeping wt on R, swing arms in W-pos (ct 1); moving in RLOD; step fwd on L, swing arms fwd low, keeping W-pos (ct 2); tap L heel slightly (ct &).
- 5 Step fwd on R, swing arms bkwd low, keeping W pos (ct 1); tap R heel slightly (ct &); step fwd on L, swing arms fwd low, keeping W-pos (ct 2); tap L heel slightly (ct &).

### FIGURE II: SEDNI (SEHD-nih)

- 1 Facing ctr, repeat Fig I, meas 1.
- 2 Repeat Fig I, meas 2.
- 3 Repeat Fig I, meas 1.
- 4 Step on L in front of R, keeping wt on R, swing arms in W-pos (ct 1); moving in RLOD, tap L heel, bending L knee and simultaneously kick R heel bkwd, bounce with arms, keeping W-pos (ct 2).

## Triti Pâti—continued

- 5 Step fwd on R, bounce with arms, keeping W-pos (ct 1); step fwd on L, bounce with arms, keeping W-pos (ct 2).

SUGGESTED SEQUENCE:

Fig I two times.

Fig II two times.

Keep that structure till the end of the dance.

The dance ends with Fig I two times.

Presented by Nina Kavardjikova

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