TRUGNALA RUMJANA (Bulgaria)

Background: As a folk song, "Trugnala Rumjana" (TRUG-nah-lah roo-MYAH-nah) is widely known, in many variants, in Macedonia, East Serbia and Bulgaria. In many places, it is danced as an ordinary 3-meas Pravo (Lesno). The Bulgarian version given here represents a 4-meas form known as "Pravo" or "Obiknoveno horo" in south-central and southeast Bulgaria (Rhodopes and Strandža). It is a standard national dance taught to Bulgarian children in their elementary-school physical education programs. It was learned by Dick Crum from Ilija Rizov, lead dancer of the Kutev Bulgarian State Folk Dance Ensemble.

Recording: XOPO 329-B, "Trgnala Rumjana"

Formation: Open mixed circle or line, arms on neighbors' shoulders ("T" formation) or sometimes with hands joined at shoulder height ("W" formation).

Meter: Ordinarily notated in 7/8 meter, with 2 dancer's beats in a "slow-slower" pattern:

1 2

1. 0

S S+

MEASURE ACTION

Facing slightly R, step Rft to R (ct 1); continuing to R, step Lft across in front of Rft (ct 2).

Turning to face ctr, step Rft sideways R (ct 1); step Lft behind Rft (ct 2).

3 Still facing ctr, step Rft sideways R (ct 1); point Lft OR raise L leg, across in front of Rft (ct 2).

4 Do movements of meas 3 with opposite footwork and direction.

Style Notes: Macedonians (or U.S. and Canadian folk dancers accustomed to Macedonian styl) learning this dance will have a tendency to divide ct 2 into 2 parts, i.e., add an extra bounce, especially in meas 3 and 4, and men will raise active knee rather high in those measures. No Bulgarian would "object" to this, although it is not part of the standardized form as it is taught in Bulgaria.

continued ...

Presented by Dick Crum

TRUGNALA RUMJANA

Bulgaria



- Trŭgnala Rumjana za voda studena (lele), vse sutrin rano po ladovina (lele) vse večer kŭsno po mesečina.
- Na srešta i ide edno ludo mlado (lele), ta na Rumjana tihom govori (lele):
- Ja kaži, Rumjano, kakvo da ti storja (lele), kitki da ti zema, drugi šte nabereš (lele).
- Stomni da ti sčupja, drugi šte si kupiš (lele), hem pohubavi, hem pošareni (lele).
- Ja togaz. Rumjano, daj da te celuna (lele), če celuvkata se s pari ne kupuva (lele).
- Če celuvkata e mehlem na surceto (lele), mehlem na surceto, balsam na dušata (lele).

(ENGLISH TRANSLATION):

- Rumjana (girl's name) went out to fetch cool water, in the morning coolness, in the evening moonlight.
- She was met by a bold young fellow who spoke to her softly, saying:
- "Tell me, Rumjana, what should I do to you? If I steal your flowers, you'll just pick others;
- 4. If I break your jugs, you'll just buy new ones, prettier and more brightly colored.
- 5. So, Rumjana, let me kiss you; for a kiss is beyond
- 6. A kiss is salve for the heart, and balm for the soul!"

Transcribed and translated by Dick Crum