Kolo (U Šest)

(Serbia)

Learned from the Serbian community in Serbia, as well as in New York. This dance has been a part of the repertoire of many folk dance groups on the U. S. It is known here as "U Šest" (oo SHEST). In many groups, the dance is done only in a choreographed form, more likely to be found on the stage. It is presented here as it is currently done in Serbian communities as a basic form, with certain free style variations done by individuals in the line.

This dance is done to a wide variety of melodies. It is the most widely known dance among the Serbs, and for most Serbs, it is the only dance. The popularity of the dance has spread as far south as Skopje in Macedonia, where Kolo is often played in the course of a dance evening.

Pronunciation: KOH-loh

Cassette: Zlatne Uste, Rounder tape or CD C6054, Side A/4

There are many other good recordings available.

Rhythm: 2/4 meter, "mixed pickles" rhythm: counted as 1, 2, & or S, Q, Q.

Formation: Open circle, hands joined in V-pos. Face diagonally R of ctr.

<u>Meas</u> <u>Pattern</u>

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>. Depends on the leader.

PATTERN

Step on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2); step on L across R (ct &).

2-4 Three sets of running steps in a "mixed pickles" rhythm. Foot placement is similar to a

Yemenite step.

5-8 Same as meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.

Variations include a "grapevine" step traveling on meas 1 instead of a step-hop-step, and four side steps replacing meas 1. Because so much of these steps have to do with styling and "feel," it has been chosen not to break the steps down in the dance notes.

Presented by Michael Ginsburg