

Xhimixhi

Albanian: pronounced "zhi-mi-zhi"

Meter $12/8$, counted 3-2-2-3-2 (SQQSQ)

Hands held in "W" hold.

I learned this dance from Steve Kotansky at the Mendocino Balkan Camp, 2002. This Dance is his arrangement of 2 different versions of the more common dance "Berançe", set to fit this particular piece of music. The dance Berançe is done widely in Greek Macedonia, Macedonia and Albania.

Step one: Done to instrumental music
Meas. Facing slightly to R line of direction

1) Lift R foot ^S approx in front of L, Lift R foot ^Q towards R, step R to R, ^S step L next to R, step R to R.

2) → Step L ^S across R, Lift R ^Q slightly, step R to R, ^S step L in front of R, Rock back ^Q on R in place.

Meas 3, 4: Repeat meas 1 & 2 traveling L, facing slightly left, with Opposite footwork

Step 2: Done to the singing

meas: 1) Same as meas one of step one

2) Same as meas 2 of step one, except, face center as you rock back on R

3) Swing L forward ^S in relaxed straight leg kick, step L ^Q slightly L of R foot, ^Q hold, step R close to L, hold taking ^Q weight on R,

4) Swing L ^S as in 3, step L to L, ^Q hold, step R behind L, ^S turning body to R, step L in place, ^Q turning to face center.

5) Swing R foot in front ^S, barely above ground, swing R foot slightly R, ^Q barely above ground, & hold, step R behind L, ^S turning body R, step L in place, ^Q turning to face center

6) Repeat meas 5

The dance begins w/ step one during the instrumental, but it may be easier to wait for the singing and start with step 2

When this tune is played by live bands, this dance is not common, since bands will often combine this song with other Berançes, and this is a dance which was specifically choreographed for this piece of music. Usually, a plain vanilla Berançe is done instead.