

Igre Bosanske Krajine

(Bosnia)

This is a mini 3-dance suite: Treskavac, Papučica, Zavrzlama.

Bosanska Krajina is a remote and isolated area. It has preserved its authentic dances, songs, and customs for generations. At the end of a day working in the fields, and during wedding celebrations, the villagers would take part in some light-hearted dances, mostly accompanied by the šargija, a tambura instrument indigenous to the region. In all aspects of this culture, an Eastern influence can be felt. Željko learned these dances from Vaso Popović, a Bosnian ethnomusicologist, in the 1980s. The name translates as “dances from Bosanska Krajina region.”

Pronunciation:

Music: Tape: “Let’s Dance” by Skitnice, Side B/1 2/4 meter
CD: “A Road Less Traveled” by Skitnice, Band 20.

Formation: Open and closed circle, alternating M and W, facing the ctr. Hands joined in V-pos with elbows slightly bent.

Styling: Flat-footed steps. Body slightly bent fwd from hips during first and third dances.

Meas

Pattern

DANCE #1: TRESKAVAC (TREHS-kah-vahts)

Formation: Circle, alternating M and W with hands joined in V-pos.

Rhythm: S, Q, Q throughout this dance.

Sequence: This dance is done a total of three times.

4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

PART I

A 1 Step on R to R bending knees (ct 1); close L beside R and bounce on both ft (ct 2); bounce again on R as L lifts slightly off floor, under body (ct &).

2-8 Repeat meas 1, alternating ftwk and direction seven more times (8 in all).

PART II

B 1 Repeat ftwk of Part I, meas 1, except move diag R fwd twd ctr. (R, bounce, bounce).

2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk, except move diag L fwd twd ctr. (L, bounce, bounce).

3 Moving bkwd out of circle, step back on R (ct 1); hop twice on R as L circles bkwd (cts 2,&).

4 Step L, R, L in place (cts 1,2,&).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 once more (2 in all).

DANCE #2: PAPUČICA (PAH-poo-chee-tsah)

Formation: Part I, cpls facing LOD with hands joined in V-pos. Part II, circle, cpls facing ctr with hands in V-pos.

Sequence: This dance is done a total of three times.

INTRODUCTION. None.

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PART I

- A 1 Moving in LOD, step R, L, R (cts 1,&2); hop on R (ct &).
 2-8 Repeat meas 1, moving in LOD, but alternating ftwk, 7 more times (8 in all).

PART II

- B 1 Retaining hand hold and facing ctr, step R, L, R hop R—M move bkwd out of circle and W move fwd twd ctr (cts 1,&2,&).
 2 Stepping LRL-hop, M move fwd twd ctr while W move bkwd out of circle.
 3 Stepping RLR-hop, M move bkwd while W move fwd to reform orig circle.
 4 Releasing hands with neighboring cpl, stepping LRL-hop (W RLR-hop), M raise joined hands (MR-WL) and turns W-CW (R) once.
 5-8 Rejoin hands and repeat meas 1-4.

DANCE #3: ZAVRZLAMA (ZAH-vrr-slah-mah)

Formation: Closed circle facing ctr with hands joined in V-pos.

Sequence: This dance is done a one time through as described.

INTRODUCTION. None.

PART I

- A 1 Moving sdwd R, step on R to R (ct 1); close R beside L (ct &); repeat side-close to R again (cts 2,&).
 2 Step on R to R (ct 1); close R beside L (ct &); small drop on R to R as L lifts slightly off of floor under body (ct 2); hold (ct &). Cue, meas 1-2: 7 steps sdwd, accent on down.
 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2, alternating ftwk and direction, three more times (4 in all).

PART II

Arms: With elbows lifted slightly, arms straighten as hands push twd floor on each step.

- B 1 Drop fwd on R (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
 2 Small leap bkwd on L (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
 3 Step R, L, R in place (cts 1,&2).
 4-12 Repeat meas 1-3 three more times (4 in all).

Dance notes by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw 1-96

Presented by Željko Jergan