

DOSPATSKO HORO

(Bulgaria)

Dospatsko Horo (dohs-PAHT-skoh hoh-ROH) was learned by Yves Moreau in December 1969 from Nasko Dimitrov, Smoljan, Bulgaria. The dance comes from the small town of Dospat in Smoljan District in the southwestern part of the Rhodopes - that area of Bulgaria just north of the Greek border. It is danced by the Bulgarian-Mohammedans. It was first introduced in the United States at the Buffalo Gap Camp in May, 1970, by Mr. Moreau, and was subsequently presented by him at the University of Pacific Folk Dance Camp and the San Diego Folk Dance Conference in 1970.

MUSIC: Record: Balkanton BHA 734. Side 1, band 3 (slow tempo slightly).
7/8 meter: 1-2-3, 1-2, 1-2. Counted here as 1, 2, 3.

FORMATION: Segregated lines. M use shoulder hold. W joined hands extended fwd slightly, at shoulder height, elbows bent ("W" pos). Also permissible to do in mixed lines, in which case all hands are joined at shoulder height, elbows bent. Face ctr, wt on L ft.

STYLING: Smooth, quiet, controlled - somewhat heavy in feeling. Has a Macedonian flavor. Joined hands move up and down with the rhythm. W movements are not as large as those of the M.

MUSIC 7/8

PATTERN

Measures

NO INTRODUCTION

I. IN PLACE

- 1-2 In place, step R, L, R (cts 1,2,3). Repeat for meas 2, begin L.
- 3 Step R to R (ct 1). Lift on R, bringing L around behind and close to R (ct 2). Step L behind R (ct 3).
- 4 Step R to R (ct 1). Step L across in front of R (ct 2). Step back in place on R (ct 3).
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4, reversing ftwork and direction.

II. GRAPEVINE

- 1 Facing ctr, but moving in LOD, step R to R (ct 1). Step L across in front of R (cts 2,3).
- 2 Step R to R (ct 1). Step L across in back of R (cts 2,3).
- 3-4 Repeat action of meas 3-4, (Fig I).
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II), reversing ftwork and direction.
- 9-16 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-8, exactly.

III. ROCKING (Do not exaggerate torso movement)

- 1 Step bkwd on R, leaving L in place (ct 1). Rock fwd onto L (ct 2). Rock bkwd onto R (ct 3).
- 2 Take a large, smooth, walking step twd ctr on L (ct 1). Step twd ctr on R, bending knee, simultaneously bring L ft up behind R leg, L knee turned out (cts 2,3).
- 3-4 Moving bkwd, step L,R,L (cts 1,2,3). Repeat for meas 4, begin R.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III) with opp ftwork.
- 9-16 Repeat action of Fig III, meas 1-8, exactly.

DOSPATSKO HORO (continued)

IV, V, VI.

1-40 Repeat Figs I, II, III exactly.

VII. TRAVELLING (Hands remain at shoulder level).

1-2 Facing slightly R and moving in LOD, step R,L,R (ct 1,2,3).
Continue for meas 2, begin L.

3 Face ctr and repeat action of meas 3 (Fig I).

4 Facing slightly R and moving in LOD, step R (ct 1). Step L (cts 2,3).

5-16 Repeat action of Fig VII, meas 1-4, 3 more times (4 in all).

VIII, IX, X.

1-40 Repeat Figs I, II, III. On final meas., close R to L (ct 2). Hold (ct 3).