

LEPA ANKA KOLO VODI

(Croatia)

Lepa Anka Kolo Vodi (pronounced LEH-pah AHN-kah KOH-loh VOH-dee) is a simple couple dance introduced to California folk dancers by the Aman Folk Ensemble of southern California. It is a slow, traditional wedding dance from Podravina, Croatia. Original research for Aman was done by Tony Shay, who learned it from Dr. Ivan Ivančan at the seminar of folk dances in Badija off the Dalmation coast in 1970. Billy Burke then fit the steps together for general folk dancing.

MUSIC: Records: Aman LP 101, Side 2, Band 2;
Festival Records FR-4108A (45).

FORMATION: Circle of cpls, both facing RLOD, W on MR (inside of circle). M thumbs are linked in belt front, or both hands are held over stomach; WL arm is linked through MR elbow with WR hand over her L.

STEPS AND STYLING: Step-Heel: Step R bending knees (ct 1), straighten knees and swing L ft fwd and through (ct 2), touch L heel fwd on floor (ct 2). Begin next step by rolling fwd off of L heel to step L. Keep body leaning well back throughout.

Bounce: Raise off of heel with ball of the ft still on the floor (upbeat ct uh), lower heel (ct 2).

Rocking Step: Step R (ct 1), bounce on R (ct 2), step L (ct 2), bounce on L (ct 2).

Walk (even rhythm).

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

4 INTRODUCTION (Instrumental). No action.

I. STEP-HEEL WITH TURN (Vocal)

1-4 Dance 4 step-heels fwd RLOD, starting R.

5-6 Dance 2 step-heels in place turning as a cpl 1/2 CW to finish facing LOD.

7-8 Hold in place with R heel fwd on floor.

9-12 Repeat action of meas 5-8 to finish facing LOD again.

1-12 Repeat action of meas 1-12.

II. ROCKING STEP WITH TURN (Instrumental)

1 Release ptr. With 1 rocking step W move diag fwd to L in front of ptr, turning 1/4 CW to finish facing ctr at ptr L and slightly behind him, R hand on ptr L shoulder with L hand on next adjacent MR shoulder. M meanwhile dance 1 rocking step in place, turning 1/4 CW to face ctr and join hands low in an inner circle of M.

2-4 M and W both dance 3 more rocking steps moving fwd on the R (ct 1) and bkwd on the L (ct 2), moving a little to the L throughout so that the whole formation progresses very slightly CW.

5-6 M release hands and join L hand with WL slightly below shoulder height with elbows fairly straight, MR hand on hip; W still on ptr L with R hand on ML shoulder. Dance 3 walking steps RLR and touch L to R, M turning 1/4 CW in place as he leads W to ctr to finish both facing LOD.

7-8 Cpl wheel again, this time turning bkwd in place 1/4 CCW with 3 walking steps LRL and touch R to L to finish facing ctr.

9-12 Retaining same pos, repeat action of meas 5-8 (Fig 11).

LEPA ANKA KOLO VODI (continued)

1-12 Repeat action of meas 1-12 (Fig 11). On last 2 meas M lead W into 1/2 turn CW by pulling her L hand as he turns 1/2 CCW. Finish both facing RLOD, W on MR in orig starting pos.

Repeat dance from beginning. Dance goes through twice, ending with a repeat of Fig 1.

SONG TEXT

Lepa Anka kolo vodi,
Kolo vodi i govori,
Alaj su mi oči čarne,
Oči čarne usne male.

TRANSLATION

Pretty Anka leads the kolo.
She leads the kolo and speaks,
But I have dark eyes,
Dark eyes and small lips.