

Tanac Po Lički

(Croatia)

Tanac Po Lički (TAH-nahts poh LEECH-kee) translates as "dance from Lika," a part of the country that is rocky and rough, and in which the people must work hard to scratch out a living from the soil. The dance was presented at the 1986 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp by Nena Sokčić, former lead dancer and singer with "Lado," the Croatian National Folk Ensemble.

RECORD: Aman 104 Side A/4 "Misnjaca" 2/4 meter

FORMATION: Circle of dancers; hands joined and held down ("V" pos).

STEPS and STYLING: Chug: A sharp movement of the ft, either fwd or bkwd, in which the ft do not leave the floor.

Jump: Spring from one ft, landing on both ft simultaneously.

Scuff: A fwd movement of indicated ft, hitting heel on floor in passing and continuing the motion of the ft beyond that place to step fwd.

Ftwk is sharp but with a heavy feeling.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

8 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. FINGER SNAP

1 Facing and moving RLOD, step fwd on R, leaving L in place (ct 1); keeping wt primarily over R ft, step almost imperceptibly on L in place (ct &); step on R (ct 2).

2 Face ctr, step on L to L, leaving R in place (ct 1); keeping wt primarily over L ft, step almost imperceptibly on R in place (ct &); step on L (ct 2).
On ct 1 raise joined hands about ear level, release hands and snap fingers on the & ct of 2. Rejoin hands while lowering them to repeat meas 1.

3-8 Turn to face RLOD and repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all).

II. JUMP AND TURN

1 Facing RLOD, step fwd on R (ct 1); jump sharply onto balls of both ft, L ft in front of R, knees extended (ct 2). Take wt on L ft to beg meas 2.

2 Step fwd on R (ct 1); turn 1/2 CW with a jump, landing on balls of both ft, L ft in front of R, knees extended (ct 2). Take wt on L to beg meas 3.

3 Step bkwd on R (ct 1); close L to R (ct &); step bkwd on R (ct 2).

4 Jump slightly fwd in LOD with ft apart, L ft a little fwd of R (ct 1); scuff R heel fwd (ct &); fall onto R, lifting L behind (ct 2).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction. On meas 6 the turn is CCW.

III. TOWARD CENTER

Joined hands swing in and out naturally with body movement.

1 Facing ctr, hop on L (ct 1); hop on L, swinging R ft fwd (ct &); step on R beside L (ct 2); hop on R, swing L up in back (ct &).

2 With ft together chug fwd (ct 1); chug bkwd (ct &); repeat for cts 2,&.

- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all). On the repeat of meas 1 it is only necessary to step on L ft to beg.

REPEAT DANCE FROM BEGINNING.

Note: It is also possible to beg Fig III by stepping on R ft for ct 1 of meas 1, reversing all ftwk described for meas 1. Ms. Šokčić prefers the version written above, but has also demonstrated the opposite, and stated that inasmuch as the pattern is done in place it is not material which ftwk is used. In a Croatian village situation not all dancers would be on the same ft.

Description written October 1986.