

KUCINATA
(Bulgaria - Dobruža)

This dance comes from the region of Reka Devnja, near Varna. It is related to similar dances using various names: Kucata, Pandalaš, Sej Sej Bop, etc. It was observed by Yves Moreau in 1970.

Pronunciation: KOO-tsee-nah-tah

Record: Dances of Bulgaria DB-1802, Side B/2.
Tune: "Stojan na Rada Dumaše."

Meter: 7/16: 1-2, 1-2, 1-2-3; or 1,2,3; or
quick-quick-SLOW

Formation: Mixed lines, hands joined at shldr height "W" pos.
Face slightly R of ctr, wt on L.

Style: Bent knees; heavy, proud.

MeasPattern

Introduction: (Instrumental). 16 meas, no action.

I. BASIC STEP - "Kucinata" (limping) Vocal.

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, heavy stamp, fwd, with R ft (no wt) and with marked knee bend (ct 1); hold (ct 2); small low leap still with bent knees, on L ft next to R (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Three "heavy" running steps in LOD, R,L,R (cts 1,2,3).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 (last step on L is heavy).
- 5 Turning to face ctr, very small hop or "Cukče" on L ft, simultaneously bringing R ft around fwd (ct 1); step on R ft slightly fwd of L (ct 2); step slightly back on L (ct 3).
- 6 Small and sharp "chug" bkwd on both ft, upper body simultaneously bends slightly fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2); heavy sharp step on R, simultaneously bringing L ft around fwd (ct 3).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.
- 9 Facing ctr, step on R ft crossing in front of L (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step on L to L (ct 3).
- 10 Repeat meas 9.
- 11 Step on R ft in front of L with marked knee flexion (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step on L straightening L knee and picking up R leg bent at knee (ct 3).
- 12 Heavy stamp with R, no wt, both knees bent (ct 1); hold (ct 2); sharp transfer of wt on L ft, simultaneously L ft lifts off ground (ct 3).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12.

KUCINATA (Continued)

- BASIC STEP - "Kucinata" (Arm movements).
- 1 Hands push strongly from "W" pos to a pos down and bkwd (straight elbows) (ct 1); hold (ct 2); arms move fwd in front of body (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3-4 Arms at shldr height "W" pos.
- 5 "Throwing" motion of arms, fwd and down (ct 1); arms continue path downward and back, straight elbows (ct 2); arms move up and fwd, parallel to ground (ct 3).
- 6 Arms at "W" pos, shldr height (ct 1); hold (ct 2); arms push sharply fwd and downward (ct 3).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.
- 9-10 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 11 Arms at "W" pos, shldr height (ct 1); hold (ct 2); arms push up, elbows still bent (ct 3).
- 12 "Pulling" motion from "W" pos slightly downward (along with heavy step) (ct 1); hold (ct 2); arms move upward, elbows still bent (ct 3).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12.

- II. CHORUS STEP - "Răcenica" (Instrumental).
- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step lightly onto R ft fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step on L in front of R (ct 3). This is a sort of "lazy" hop-step-step.
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Three steps, R,L,R, moving slightly to R and bkwd with upper body bending slightly fwd.
- 4 Three more small running steps L,R,L moving slightly to L and fwd.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

- II. CHORUS STEP - "Răcenica" (Arm movements).
- 1-2 Same as meas 1-2, Figure I.
- 3 Hands at shldr height, bouncing to rhythm of cts 1,2,3.
- 4 Same as meas 3 but on ct 3 arms are pushing downward to get into meas 1.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

Each Figure alternates once more.

Presented and notated by Yves Moreau