

Strandžansko Pajduško

(Bulgaria)

Pajduško is a type of folk dance found throughout Bulgaria. It has been observed in a variety of pattern structures ranging from 8 measures to 12 measures in length. This version found around Burgas in Strandža region near the black Sea is somewhat related to the Trite Pati dance type also widespread in Thrace. Observed by Yves Moreau at "Strandža Pee" Folk Festival, 1970. Presented by him at the 1987 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

Pronunciation: STRAHN-jahn-skoh pigh-DOOSH-koh

Music: Any Pajduško tune or Yves Moreau special cassette.

Rhythm: 5/8 meter: 1, 2 or 1-2, 1-2-3 or Q S.

Formation: Mixed lines. Hands joined in V-pos. Face slightly R of ctr. Wt on L.

Styling: Low-keyed style, body erect and proud. Knees slightly bent. Steps somewhat large and heavy. Do not turn body side-to-side, keep body straight.

Meas

Pattern

16 meas

INTRODUCTION

I. BASIC TRAVEL STEP

- 1 Hop on L (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2).
- 2 Hop on R (ct 1); step on L to R (ct 2).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 5 Facing ctr, hop on L in place (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2).
- 6 Step on L in front of R (ct 1); step on R in place (ct 2).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 9 Small step on R in place (ct 1); small step on L next to R (ct 2).
- 10 Repeat meas 6 with opp ftwk.
- 11-16 Repeat meas 5-10.

II. FORWARD AND BACK

During meas 1-3, keep R knee bent during fwd movement.

- 1 Facing ctr, hop on L (ct 1); sharp heavy stamp fwd with wt on R (ct 2).
- 2 Step on L behind R heel (ct 1); sharp heavy stamp fwd with wt on R (ct 2).
- 3 Repeat meas 2.
- 4 Quick step on L in front of R, bending upper body fwd (ct 1); step back on R (ct 2).
- 5 Small hop on R (ct 1); step on L to L (ct 2).
- 6 Click R ft next to L (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6 with opp ftwk.
- 9-12 Repeat meas 5-8.
- 13-15 Three hop-steps bkwd, beg R.
- 16 Two quick small leaps in place R, L, bring R knee up at end.

Leader determines number of times for each variation. Throughout dance, arms swing fwd and back. Arms move fwd on every other hop. Arms swing as far fwd as possible and as far back as possible, except during meas 5-12. The arms stop down at sides on clicks.

Presented by Suzanne Rocca-Butler