

Gusachok

(Russia)

Gusachok, a couple dance, comes from the research and choreographic work of Tatyana Ustinova. Gusachok could be translated as "goose-dance." Russian peasants of the Smolensk region used to imitate geese in their dancing. The dance was introduced at the Russian Summer Dance Camp 1990 by Olga Zolotova.

Pronunciation: goos-ah-CHOHK

Cassette: Konings – Stockton 1996, 2/4 meter
Russian Dances Stockton 1994 Side A/11

Formation: Couples in a single circle facing LOD (CCW), W in front of ptr. Imitating the wings of a goose, arms are rounded and held behind the body with hands at back of hips, palms up. Throughout the dance, one or both arms are held in this position.

Meas

Pattern

4 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. TWO-STEPS IN LOD

1 Beg R, dance 1 two-step (cts 1,&2) in LOD, turning R side twd LOD on ct 1.

2 Beg L, dance 1 two-step in LOD, turning L side twd LOD on ct 1.

3-16 Repeat meas 1-2 seven times. On meas 16, W continue turning CW on cts &, 2 to end facing ptr.

II. CIRCLING WITH PARTNER

1-8 With 8 two-steps, circle CW with R side adjacent to ptr. On each two-step beginning with the R ft, thrust R hip twd ptr. On each two-step beginning with the L ft, thrust L hip away from ptr. On meas 8, reform original circle.

III. TWO-STEP IN LOD

1-16 Repeat Fig I. On meas 16, M face ctr; W move in to face ptr. Touch R palms at about shldr level with elbows bent.

IV. INTO CENTER AND OUT

1-3 Beg R, walk 6 steps twd ctr (W backing up). Joined hands move down a little on each ct 1 and up a little on each ct &; repeat for cts 2,&.

4 Stepping R, L, change places with ptr (W turn 1/2 CW under joined R hands while changing places). Hands return to palm-to-palm pos.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 moving away from ctr (W still backing up).

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8. On meas 16, turn W under to end in original circle, W in front of ptr.

56 meas REPEAT DANCE FROM THE BEGINNING

End Fig IV facing ptr, M facing LOD.

Gorenka

(Russia)

Dances with the name *Gorenka* are known in many regions of Russia. The gorenka was the room in the house where the show pieces of furniture were placed. The room was used only for special occasions such as a party or celebration. This dance is an adaptation by Hennie Konings, based on the traditional dance from the Orenburg region. It was introduced by him to the participants of "Ballet Holidays" in Germany, 1995.

Pronunciation: goh-REHN-kah

Cassette: Konings – Stockton 1996

2/4 meter

Formation: Large circle of dancers, facing in LOD with hands joined in V-pos. Dancers are numbered in groups of 6 starting at the LOD end of each group. Number one is the Leader.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. BIG CIRCLE

- 1 Moving in LOD, step on R (ct 1); stamp L (no wt) beside R (ct &); step fwd on L (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Continuing in LOD, step on R (ct 1); stamp L (no wt) beside R (ct &); repeat cts 1, & with opp ftwk (cts 2,&).
- 4-5 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 6 Continuing in LOD, step on R (ct 1); stamp L (no wt) beside R (ct &); stamp R (with wt) beside L (ct 2).
- 7-12 Repeat meas 1-6 with opp ftwk, still moving in LOD.
- 13 Moving in LOD, step on R, L, R (cts 1,&,2).
- 14 Repeat meas 13 with opp ftwk.
- 15-18 Repeat meas 13-14 twice.

II. SMALL CIRCLES

- Use ftwk of Fig I, meas 13-18 throughout.
- 1-6 Each Leader release R hand with R-hand neighbor and, leading line in twd ctr, curve line to meet and join hands with Dancer 6. Continue circling CCW until end of musical phrase.
- 7-12 Leader release R hand with Dancer 6 and place R fist on waist. Dancing in place, raise joined hands to make arches; Leader goes in front of Dancer 2 and under the arch made by Dancers 2 and 3. Lower joined hands into V-pos when starting to duck under own arch. Leader continue to weave through under own arch, other dancers following.
- 13-18 Leader leads line CCW back to the Big Circle. Rejoin hands and continue circling CCW.
- 36 meas Repeat Figures I and II.
- 12 meas Repeat Figure I, meas 1-12. Facing ctr, all bow from the hips twd ctr.

Presented by Hennie Konings

Description by Ruth Ruling and Joyce Lissant Uggla