

Svetit mesyats

(Russia)

Meaning “the moon is shining,” Svetit mesyats (SVYEH-teet MYEH-syats) is a traditional dance from Central Russia. E. Zasimova, teacher of ethno-musicology at the Cultural Institution of Moscow, introduced the dance in Holland in 1987. Hennie Konings taught the dance at the 1994 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, CA.

Cassette: Russian Dances Stockton 1994 Side A/3 2/4 meter

Formation: Couple (W to R of ptr) facing couple in a column. Each set of two couples join hands in V-pos to make a small circle of four dancers.

Steps: Walk: One step to a ct (2 to a meas).

Step-Scuff: Step onto R (ct 1); scuff L heel fwd (ct &); repeat with opp ftwk (cts 2,&). As dance progresses, this step may be substituted for walking steps.

Measures	2/4 meter	PATTERN
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24 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. CIRCLE CCW AND CW

1 Beg R, each circle walk two steps CCW (cts 1,2).

2 In place, step R, L, R (cts 1,&,2), turning to face ctr.

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and moving CW. End facing diag L of ctr.

II. PROGRESS TO NEW COUPLE

1-2 Releasing hands with other couple, walk 4 steps R, L, R, L diag fwd to L passing opp cpl by W R shldr.

3-4 Walk 4 steps R, L, R, L diag R to meet new cpl, joining hands in V-pos.

DANCE SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written until music ends. As each cpl reaches the end of the set, turn CW as a cpl (or W turn CCW under joined R hands as ptrs change places walking R, L) to face twd the column and wait out one pattern.