

# Zimushka

(Russia)

This dance is choreographed by Hennie Konings based on folk dance material from the repertoire of the State Vocal-Choreographic Ensemble "Russ" from the town of Vladimir in Central Russia. In earlier days Russians used to sing about the very cold winter, and address it, in a sweet and gentle way, with the hope to survive it. The dance was introduced by Hennie Konings in Russian Summer Dance Camp in Germany in 1998. The name translates as "little winter," a word from the title of the song "ush ty, zimushka, zima," originally sung to this melody.

Pronunciation: ZEE-moosh-kah

CD: Russian Dances by Hennie Konings, Stockton 2006

4/4 meter

Formation: Closed circle, hands joined in V-pos.

## Meas

## Pattern

slow air + 2 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

### OPENING

- 1 3 steps fwd twd ctr R-L-R (cts 1,2,3); stamp L, no wt (ct 4).
- 2 3 steps bkwd L-R-L (cts 1,2,3); stamp R, no wt (ct 4).

### DANCE

- 1-4 Walk 16 steps in LOD (CCW) beg R.
- 5-6 Turning to face ctr, walk 8 steps twd ctr, beg R. Raise arms slowly above head.
- 7 3 steps in place R-L-R turning 1/4 to L (CCW) (cts 1,2,3); stamp L in place (ct 4). Keep straight arms raised.
- 8 3 steps in place L-R-L turning 1/2 to R (CW) (cts 1,2,3); stamp R in place (ct 4). Still keep straight arms raised.
- 9 Repeat meas 7, ending facing ctr again, arms still raised.
- 10-11 Walk 8 steps bkwd, beg L. Lower arms to V-pos.
- 12-15 Walk 16 steps CW, beg L.
- 16-17 Walk 8 steps, beg L, making a small 3/4 circle CCW outward, ending facing ctr. During the turn, arms are opened to the sides. The final step R (meas 17, ct 4) is a stamp with wt across in front of L while R arm crosses in front of body and L arm is out to the side.
- 18 3 steps in place L-R-L (cts 1,2,3); stamp R, no wt (ct 4). Keep arms in same pos.
- 19-21 Repeat meas 16-18 with opp ftwk, direction, and arms.
- 22 Repeat meas 18 in place while arms take V-pos.

### CLOSING

- 1-4 Walk 16 steps in LOD, beg R.
- 5-6 Repeat Opening, meas 1-2.
- 7 Step on R (ct 1); stamp L, no wt (ct 2); step on L next to R (ct 3).

Presented by Hennie Konings