

Oro vlaška

(Serbia, Vlach)

“Oro vlaška” is, as the name implies a “Vlach dance.” The Vlach people, who speak a Romanian dialect, (the name “Vlach” derives from Wallachia, a region of southern Romania) live as an ethnic minority in parts of Greece, Bulgaria and the former Yugoslavia, especially Serbia. I put these three steps, which I learned dancing with various Vlach people in Serbia in the late 1970's, to this music. You could use many different Vlach melodies for this dance. (A similar dance, named “Vlaško oro” has also previously been taught to this same music. I was unaware of this dance when I found this music and put these steps to it. My apologies to anyone who still remembers and loves this other choreography for any confusion this might cause!)

Pronunciation: OH-roh VLAHSH-koh

Music: “Oro vlaška” on Folkkraft 1568

2/4 meter

Formation: Short, straight lines. Belt hold (R arm under L).

Styling: Almost comically energetic.

Meas

Pattern

FIGURE I

- 1 Moving to the R, step on R to R, leaning slightly fwd and to the R, that is: L shldr fwd (ct 1); step on L next to R, bringing upper body back to upright pos, R shldr fwd (ct &); repeat cts 1,& (cts 2,&).
- 2 Repeat meas 1, cts 1,& (cts 1,&); step on R to R, leaning slightly fwd and to the R (ct 2); stamp L next to R, no wt (ct &).
- 3 Still facing R, step sideways on L twd ctr, leaning twd ctr (ct 1); stamp R next to L, no wt (ct &); still facing R, step sideways on R away from ctr, leaning away from ctr (ct 2); stamp L next to R, no wt (ct &).
- 4 Facing and moving L, leap onto L (ct 1); stamp R next to L, no wt (ct ee); leap onto R (ct &); stamp L next to R, no wt (ct ah); leap onto L (ct 2); stamp R next to L (ct &).

FIGURE II

- 1 Turning slightly to R and dancing in place, leap onto R (ct 1); stamp L next to R, no wt (ct ee); turning slightly to L, leap onto L (ct &); stamp R next to L, no wt (ct ah); repeat cts 1,ee,&,ah (cts 2,ee,&,ah).
- 2 Facing and moving fwd twd ctr, step on R (ct 1); hop on R (ct &), step on L (ct ah); step on R (ct 2); stamp L next to R, no wt (ct &).
- 3 Beg with L, run 4 steps bkwd away from ctr, lifting knees high (cts 1,&,2,&).
- 4 Land with wt on both ft together (ct 1); jump and land with ft apart (ct 2); leap onto L with R ft lifted and crossed in front of L shin (ct &).

Oro Vlaška—continued

FIGURE III

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Repeat Fig II, meas 1, cts 1,ee,&,ah (cts 1,ee,&,ah);
Repeat Fig II, meas 1, cts 1,ee,&,ah (cts 2,ee,&,ah); | “Single-single”
“Single-single” |
| 2 | Repeat Fig II, meas 1, cts 1,ee,&,ah (cts 1,ee,&,ah);
leaning R, leap onto R to R (ct 2); stamp L next to R, no wt (ct ee);
hop slightly on R (ct &); stamp L next to R (ct ah). | “Single-single”

“Double” |
| 3 | Repeat meas 2, cts 2,ee,&,ah with opp ftwk (cts 1,ee,&,ah)
Repeat Fig II, meas 1, cts 1,ee,&,ah (cts 2,ee,&,ah); | “Double”
“Single-single” |
| 4 | Repeat meas 2, cts 2,ee,&,ah with opp ftwk (cts 1,ee,&,ah)
leaning L, leap onto L (ct 2); stamp R next to L, no wt (ct &). | “Double”
“Step-stamp” |

Leader calls out changes from one figure to the next.

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