

BAVNO ORO

Macedonian

PRONUNCIATION: BAHV-noh OH-roh

TRANSLATION: Slow dance

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Dennis Boxell who taught this version of Bavno Oro under the original title of Makedonsko Bavno Oro at the 1962 California Kolo Festival. Anatol Joukowsky learned the dance somewhere between 1930 and 1940, and taught another version in 1955.

BACKGROUND: Boris Karlov recorded his arrangement of a Macedonian folk song, Snosti Sakav Da Ti Dojdam, in the early 1950s under the name Bavno Oro. This dance is done in many parts of Bulgaria. The song tells of a person who "last night I wanted to visit you, but it was a fine dew, so I did not come".

MUSIC: NAMA (LP) 1001;
XOPO (45rpm) X-301.

Geisler, Richard. Sheet music, "Lark in the Morning Free Music Library,"
<http://larkinam.com/LITMLibrary.html#Geisler>.

Sheet Music: Vancouver International Folk Dancers Music Book, Vol. 2., Deborah Jones, 1982.

FORMATION: Open line of M and W with the M at the front end of the line and the W at the other, hands joined at shldr level and held slightly fwd in "W" pos, end dancers' free hand on hips or flourishing a handkerchief. The last M and the first W hold a handkerchief between them.

METER/RHYTHM: 7/8, 7/16, counted below in three dancer's counts. The slow part of the dance is in 7/8 (slow-quick-quick) rhythm that changes to a 7/16 (quick-quick-slow) rhythm during the fast part after a 3/16 slow (1 bt) meas. These seven-count rhythms are known among Balkan music and dance specialists as the "Macedonian seven" (Madedonska sedmorka).

STEPS/STYLE: Macedonian M dance with high, light, proud movements, while W dance with more subdued steps.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

NAMA recording: Wait nine meas.

XOPO recording: Wait one meas.

I. SLOW PART (25 meas)

1 Facing slightly to the R, step R swd (ct 1); step L across in front of R (ct 4), pause (ct 6).

NOTE: In many areas of the United States, this step has been modified and resembles the traditional Lesnoto step: Step R swd (ct 1); slight bounce on R with L knee slightly raised in front (ct 4); step L across in front of R (ct 6).

2 Facing ctr, step R swd (ct 1); slight bounce on R, M raising bent L knee high in front of R with L ft in front of R leg, W raising L low in front of R (ct 4); slight bounce on R with L remaining in same pos as before (ct 6).

3 Reverse action of meas 2 to L with opp ftwk.

4-24 Repeat action of meas 1-3 seven more times.

25 Repeat action of meas 1.

II. HEEL TOUCH AND DIP (17 meas)

1 Facing ctr, small step R swd, slightly bending R knee (ct 1); lightly tap L heel fwd and slightly diag to L (ct 4); lightly tap L heel directly fwd (ct 6);

2 Step L next to R, slightly bending L knee (ct 1); lightly tap R heel fwd and slightly diag to R (ct 4); small step R swd (ct 6);

3 Facing slightly to R, step L across in front of R, bending L knee in a "dip" (ct 1); facing ctr, step R swd (ct 4); step L across in back of R (ct 6).

4-15 Repeat action of meas 1-3 four more times.

16 Repeat action of meas 1.

17 Facing ctr, step L in place, slightly bending L knee (ct 1); lightly tap R heel fwd and slightly diag to R (ct 4); lightly tap R heel directly fwd (ct 6).

III. SIDE-CROSS AND LIFT (24 meas)

1-24 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-24. Note that there is no meas 25 this time.

IV. HEEL TOUCH AND DIP (15 meas)

1-15 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-15.

NOTE: Fig IV is followed by a single beat corresponding to the first "slow" beat, or ct 1, on which dancers: Leap R swd, bending knee and thrusting L ft fwd as a transition into Fig V (ct 1).

V. SIDE-BEHIND AND THRUST (29 meas)

- 1 Facing ctr, step L swd (ct 1); step R across in back of L (ct 3); fall onto L swd, bending L knee and thrusting R fwd (ct 5);
- 2 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct 3); quick, light step R swd (ct 4); step L across in front of R, bending L knee in a "dip" (ct 5);
- 3 Step R swd (ct 1); step L across in back of R (ct 3); fall onto R swd, bending R knee and thrusting L fwd (ct 5).
- 4-27 Repeat action of meas 1-3 nine more times.
- 28-29 Repeat action of meas 1-2.
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BAVNO ORO
Macedonia

// Snošti sakav da ti dojdám, // Last night I wanted to visit you,
// Sitna rosa zarosi, But it was a fine dew,
Sitna rosa zarosi, But it was a fine dew,
Zato ne dojdof. // So I did not come.

// Kakav junak ti ke bideš, // What are you for a hero,
// Od rosa da se uplašiš, That you're afraid of dew,
Od rosa da se uplašiš, That you're afraid of dew,
A bre budalo?!" // You fool?!
