

## ČUKARIČKO KOKONJEŠTE

Serbian

PRONUNCIATION: choo-kah-REECH-koh koh-kohn-YESH-teh

TRANSLATION: Kokonješte-type dance from Čukarica

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Dick Crum. Michael Herman described this dance in 1951. John Filcich described it in 1953. Dennis Boxell also taught the dance.

BACKGROUND: This kokonješte is named for Čukarica, a section of Beograd (Belgrade) along the Sava river in Serbia, renowned early in the century for its race track. The kokonješte, known in dialect as kokonjesče, kukunješ, kukunješte, and kukunjesče, is considered one of the "classic" dances of Yugoslavia. Other dances in this category are Čuješ mala, Dorčolka, and Žikino kolo. According to Dick Crum, kokonješte "is a Romanian word (coconește, meaning 'in the style of a young nobleman'), giving support to the theory that the dance was introduced via the upper-class ballroom." This dance, which appeared in the United States in the 1920s, is also known by the names Čukaričko kolo and Tamburaško kolo.

Like several other neighborhoods of Belgrade, Čukarica was named after a kafana. At the present location of the Sugar Refinery, there was a kafana in the second half of the 19th century. It was very popular as it was located at the point where two roads, one from Obrenovac and other from Šumadija, meet at the entrance to Belgrade. It was owned by Stojko Čukar and after him the kafana was named "Čukareva kafana" which later gave name to the settlement. The urban part of the municipality is completely within the Belgrade City proper, comprising many neighborhoods and sub-neighborhoods, some of which used to be separate towns until the 1970s before Belgrade expanded that much to make urban connection to them. The neighborhood of Čukarica, which gave the name to the entire municipality, is located on a hill above the eastern bank of the Sava River.

MUSIC: Balkan (45rpm) 536-B  
Mediterranean (45rpm) M-4002 "Cleveland kolo (Tamburaško)"  
Folkraft (45rpm) F-1534x45  
Folk Dancer (45rpm) MH-1002-B "Čukaričko kolo"

FORMATION: Open cir of mixed M and W with joined hands held down in "V" pos.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: PAS DE BASQUE: Step slightly swd (ct 1); step in front with free ft (ct 2); step back into place with free ft (ct 3).

INTRODUCTION - None.

I. EVENS AND PAS DE BASQUE

- 1 Small leap R swd on ball of ft (ct 1); step on L heel in front of R (ct &); step R swd on ball of ft (ct 2); step on L heel in front of R (ct &).
- 2 Step R swd on ball of ft (ct 1); step on L heel in front of R (ct &); step R swd (ct 2); pause (ct &).
- 3 Dance one Pas de Basque L.
- 4 Dance one Pas de Basque R.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8.

II. KOKONJEŠTE

- 1 Facing diag R and moving to the R in LOD, run R (ct 1); run L (ct 2).
- 2 Turning to face ctr, dance one Pas de Basque R.
- 3 Dance one Pas de Basque L.
- 4 Dance one Pas de Basque R.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 to L with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8.

Repeat entire dance from beg.