

## PRORUPTA

### Serbian Vlach

PRONUNCIATION: proh-ROOP-tah

TRANSLATION: Interrupted

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this Vlach dance from Steve Kotansky who learned it in the East Serbian village of Osnić near the Bulgarian border and the Serbian town of Boljevac. Stephen taught it at the 1981 San Diego State University Folk Dance Conference.

BACKGROUND: The Vlachs (or "Vlasi" as they call themselves) belong to a Romanian-related linguistic group that was already established in the Balkan Peninsula. The word "Vlasi" (or "Vlah" in the singular) has obscure, complex origins dating back to the early Greek form "Vlachoi." It refers not only to a Romanian-related linguistic group, but through the centuries has been used in the Balkans to denote, sometimes even in a derogatory sense, that which is foreign ("not one of us"), primitive, pastoral, nomadic, et cetera. The Vlachs were primarily a pastoral people when the Slavs arrived in the sixth and seventh centuries. Osnić is a village in Boljevac, a town and municipality located in the Zaječar District of Serbia.

MUSIC: Festival (7"EP) FEP-111, side A

FORMATION: Short lines alternating M, W, M, W, in "X" pos, a belt hold with R arm under. In Osnić, the leader is always a man because of the particular way in which the W are twisted by the M.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: The dance is done on the whole ft. When the W are being twisted, the movement is instigated by the M who yank on the W belts.

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#### MEAS

#### MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

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#### INTRODUCTION

- 1 Facing ctr, step L fwd (ct 1); pause (ct 2);
- 2 Step R bwd (ct 1); pause (ct 2);
- 3 Step L swd (ct 1); step R next to L (ct 2);
- 4 Step L swd (ct 1); pause (ct 2);
- 5-6 Repeat action of meas 3-4 to R with opp ftwk.

#### THE DANCE

- 1 Step L fwd (ct 1); step R next to L (ct 2);
- 2 With ft slightly apart and parallel, bounce heels 3 times (cts 1,&,2);
- 3 Bounce heels 3 times, accenting L fwd slightly on third bounce (cts 1,&,2);
- 4 Step L bwd (ct 1); step R bwd (ct 2);  
NOTE: Stepping bwd R,L also is danced by some people.
- 5 Repeat bounces of meas 2;
- 6 Step R swd as M twist W to R (ct 1); close L to R as M twist W to L (ct 2);
- 7 Repeat bounces of meas 2.

#### M VARIATION

The following variations are done only by M in the village of Osnić on meas 1 and 6:

- 1 Step L fwd (ct 1); scuff R next to L (ct &); stamp R next to L, taking wt (ct 2).
- 6 Step R swd (ct 1); scuff L next to R (ct &); stamp L next to R, taking wt (ct 2).