

SRBIJANKA

Serbian

PRONUNCIATION: sir-bee-YAHN-kah

TRANSLATION: Serbian woman

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from both Dick Crum and John Filcich. Atanas Kolarovski taught it at the 1978 North Country Folk Dance Camp.

BACKGROUND: Srbijanka (Serbianka) is an old dignified circle dance (kolo) that was danced at the turn of the century at the elegant balls of the cities of Serbia. It was usually danced at the beginning of the program and led by the most prominent political personage among the guests. Dick Crum, noted Balkan dance researcher, said, "Old-time tamburica players whom I interviewed recognized the name and placed Srbijanka among the earliest kolos brought to the United States. It was only marginally popular, died out, and was revived (at least in Pittsburgh) during the late 1940s or early 1950s in connection with issuance of the Balkan Serenaders' recording. I never saw it done in any other Serbian or Croatian community in the United States, and it died out in Pittsburgh before the end of the decade."

MUSIC: Festival Records "Kolo Party" (LP) FLP 1505
Kolo Festival (45rpm) KF 4802
Songcraft (78rpm) B105 B

FORMATION: Open cir of mixed M and W with leadr at R, hands joined and held at shldr level and slightly fwd in "W" pos.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: As the dance became known to the peasantry, it was changed in style to suit their tastes.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION - None.

I. OLDER FORM

- 1 Facing slightly to R and moving to R in LOD, walk R (ct 1); walk L (ct 2);
2 Turning to face ctr, step R swd (ct 1); close L to R without wt (ct 2);
3 Step L swd (ct 1); close R to L without wt (ct 2).
- 4-24 Repeat action of meas 1-3 seven more times.

TRANSITIONAL INTERLUDE

- 25-27 Repeat action of meas 1-3;
28 Add an extra step R swd to R (ct 1); close L to R without wt (ct 2).
- 29-56 Repeat action of meas 1-28 to L with opp ftwk.
- 1-56 repeated Repeat action of meas 1-56.

II. NEWER FORM

- 1 Facing slightly R and moving to R in LOD, run R (ct 1); run L (ct 2);
2 Turning to face ctr, step RLR in place (cts 1,&,2);
3 Step LRL in place (cts 1,&,2).
- Repeat action of Fig II to end of music.