

SVRLJIŠKI ČAČAK

Serbian

- PRONUNCIATION:** SFERL-yeesh-kee CHAH-chahk
- TRANSLATION:** Čačak-type dance (Čačak means "dried mud") from Svrljig
- SOURCE:** Dick Oakes learned this dance from Dick Crum who learned it in the early 1950s from villagers of the Svrljig area, just over the hill from the city of Niš in southeastern Serbia. Several other instructors have taught the dance in the United States, including Dave Rosenberg and Larry Weiner. Carol Walker taught a variant at the 1977 California Kolo Festival.
- BACKGROUND:** In 1971, Larry Weiner traveled to Svrljig and although at that time it appeared that this unusual 11-measure dance had fallen from the region's repertoire of dances, the dance adheres to the character of dances from the Svrljig area. Svrljig is situated on the river Svrljiški Timok, about 19 miles east of Niš, the biggest city in south Serbia. The slopes of the Svrljig Mountains are fascinating.
- MUSIC:** Folk Dancer (45rpm) MH-3029
Village Dances from Svrljig Jugoslavia LW-1
- FORMATION:** Short lines (5 to 10 dancers) of mixed M and W holding belts in an "X" pos with R arm under, or with L hand on hip and R hand resting on neighbor's forearm in "Q" pos (as if being escorted). Some dancers prefer to dance with hands simply joined and held down in "V" pos.
- METER/RHYTHM:** 2/4
- STEPS/STYLE:** LIMP STEP: Small step swd on ball of ft with knees straight (ct &); step on free ft next to supporting ft bending knees slightly (ct 1).
- SYNCOATED THREES WITH STEPS: Step swd, flexing knees, with heel slightly turned out (ct 1); straighten knees (ct &); step on free ft next to supporting ft, flexing knees (ct 2); step on free ft next to supporting ft, flexing knees (ct &).
- STEP STAMP: Step slightly swd with toe turned slightly out (ct 1); stamp free ft next to supporting ft bending knees (ct 2).
- The entire dance is done facing ctr with small steps which are kept close to the floor.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

1-2

INTRODUCTION - No action.

THE DANCE

- 1 Limp Step R twice.
- 2 Syncopated Threes With Steps R.
- 3 Syncopated Threes With Steps L.
- 4 Step Stamp R.
- 5 Limp Step L twice.
- 6 Syncopated Threes With Steps L.
- 7 Step Stamp R.

- 8 Limp Step L twice.
- 9 Syncopated Threes With Steps L.
- 10 Step Stamp R.

- 11 Step L swd, bending knees (ct 1); Limp Step R (cts &2).

Repeat entire dance, beg with the final ct & of meas 11, to end of music.

NOTE: Because of the speed of the music, many dancers dance Syncopated Threes With Bounces in place of Syncopated Threes With Steps:

SYNCOPATED THREES WITH BOUNCES: Step swd, flexing knees, with heel slightly turned out (ct 1); straighten knees (ct &); close free ft to supporting ft and bounce on both heels (ct 2); bounce on both heels (ct &).