

# TROJANAC

Serbian

PRONUNCIATION: troh-YAH-nahts

TRANSLATION: A man from the village of Trojan in Western Serbia

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Dick Crum who collected this dance in 1954 from research workers at the Serbian Musicological Institute in Belgrade, Serbia.

BACKGROUND: The peculiar five steps of Trojanac and the five measures of melody add interest to this dance from the village of Valjevo in Serbia. Trojanac was seen in the United States in the documentary color film "Yugoslav Village Dances," which toured in 1953. Valjevo is on the bank of the river Kolubara. The houses and little shops date from the 18th century and have remained unchanged since. There are also artisans there such as saddlers, weavers, potters, and even skirt producers. Tešnjara is one of the oldest paved streets in Valjevo, is used for films based in the past, and is one of the places that makes the beautiful town unique.

MUSIC: Fez (45rpm) 701 - this recording speeds up nicely  
Folk Dancer (45rpm) MH-3029  
Jugoton (LP) SY-1037  
Kolo Festival (LP) LP-1504  
National (45rpm) N-4518

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

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: SYNCOPATED THREE WITH STEPS: Step swd, flexing knees, with heel slightly turned out (ct 1); straighten (ct &); step on free ft next to supporting ft, flexing knees (ct 2); step on free ft next to supporting ft, flexing knees (ct &).

SYNCOPATED THREE 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 &).

The ftwk should be kept small throughout the dance.

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MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

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INTRODUCTION - None.

THE DANCE

1 Facing slightly diag R, step R (ct 1); step L (ct 2).

2-5 Facing ctr, dance four Syncopated Three With Steps beg R.

#### VARIATION I

- 1 On recordings where the music increases in tempo, substitute Syncopated Three With Bounces (R, L, R, L) in meas 2-5 as the music speeds up.

#### VARIATION II

- 1 Some dancers prefer to dance a Syncopated Three With Bounces swd to the R during the first meas rather than the two steps, completing meas 2-5 as in Var I.

NOTE: When Trojanac is followed by a dance called "Svrljiski Čačak," as on the Folk Dancer recording, dancers often dance Var II exclusively.