

KARAJ MAJČO / SVORNATO

TRANSLATION & BACKGROUND : The dancename is Svornato which is derived from the verb svârštam se or svârna, Bulgarian for "to turn" or "return".

Svornato is one of the most popular dances from the Rhodope Mountain region in Southern Bulgaria.

The musical accompaniment is either a song or played on the Kaba Gajda, a low-pitched bagpipe typical for the Rhodopes.

Some of the traditional songs used for the dance are:

- Gajdana Svir (Pink Cassette JL1987.01)

- Karaj Majčo (Blue Cassette JL1987.02)

Another dance closely related to Svornato is:

- Dvasti Trišti (Yellow Cassette JL1986.01 )

(Red Cassette JL1990.01)

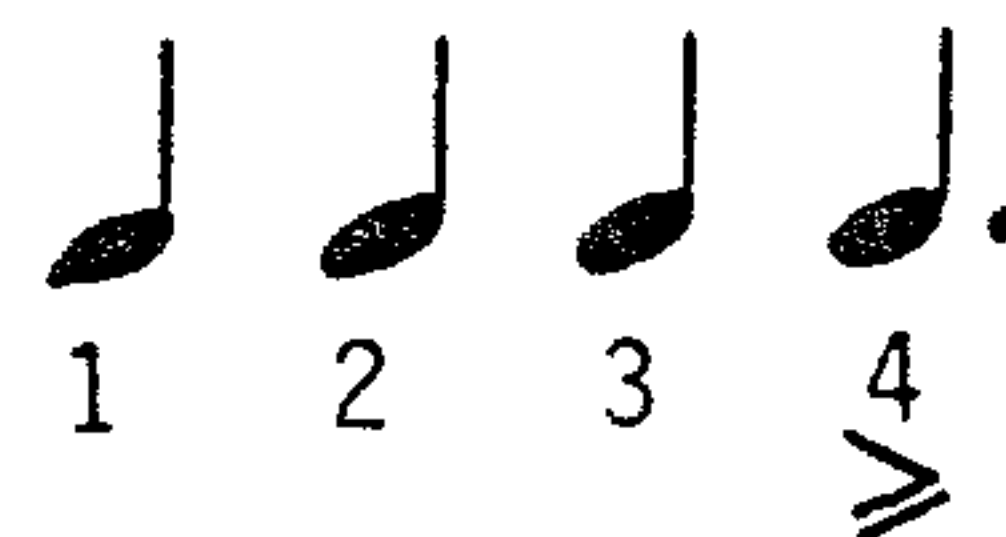
The name Kâršelama, also used for the dance's basic pattern, indicates a Turkish origin and influence.

METER

: 9/8



counted here as



MUSIC

: - LP "FOLK DISCO - 1 / CROSSROADS"  
Balkanton BHA 12366 / Side A, Band 4.

- Cassette "FOLK DANCES FROM BULGARIA" - JL1990.01  
Presented by Jaap Leegwater / Side A, Nr. 10.

This recording is a more contemporary performance of the song Karaj Majčo. It comes from the "FOLK-DISCO - 1" release which represents an interesting phenomenon in Bulgaria today: the interaction of modern influences with Bulgaria's old and rich folkmusical heritage.

SOURCE

: Adapted from the Svornato (Gajdana Svir) as taught by Stanka Petrova at the Fourth Annual Summer Dance Seminar 1986 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

FORMATION

: Half - or open circle.  
Hands held down at the sides in V-position.

MUSICAL

: 8 measures

INTRODUCTION

DIRECTION

MEAS

CT

PATTERN

Part 1 "BASIC"



1

1

"fall" onto R ft, bending R knee and swinging L heel behind

2

step on L ft

3

step on R ft

4

step on L ft

2

as meas 1

3

1

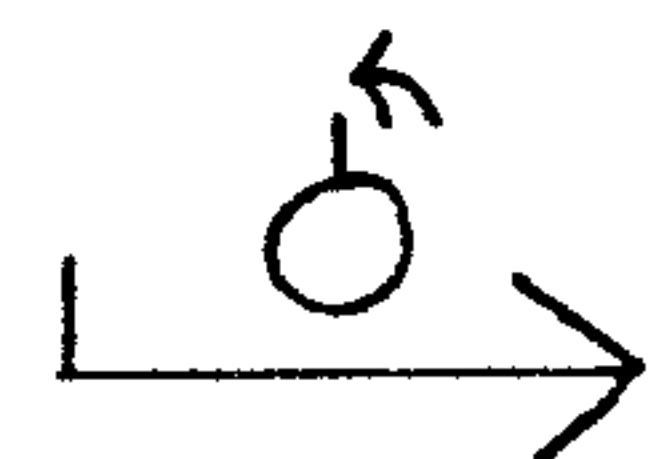
as meas 1

2

step on R ft

4

close L ft, without wt, next to R ft



4

1

step on L ft

2

step on R ft next to L ft

3

step on L ft

4

close R ft, without wt, next to L ft



<u>DIRECTION</u>	<u>MEAS</u>	<u>CT</u>	<u>PATTERN</u>	<u>Part 2 "FWD-BKWD"</u>
↑	1	1	step on R ft	} Bring arms gradually up to W-position
		2	step on L ft	
		3	step on R ft	
		4	step on L ft	
↓	2	1	step on L ft	
		2	step on R ft	
		3	step on L ft	
		4	touch R ft next to L ft	
↓	3-4		repeat the steps of meas 1-2 bkwd	} Bring arms gradually down to V-position

Part 3 "IN PLACE"

□	1	1	"fall" onto R ft, swing & turn L heel out
		2	step on L ft across in front of R ft
		3	step on R ft
		4	close L ft, without wt, next to R ft
	2		repeat action of meas with opp ftwk & directions
	3-4		repeat action of meas 1-2

Part 4 "HOPS"

↗	1	1	step on R ft
		2	hop on R ft, swinging L ft in an arc close to the floor fwd
		3	step on L ft
		4	hop on L ft, swinging R ft in an arc close to the floor fwd
		&	low leap onto R ft, swinging L heel bkwd
↘	2	1	step on L ft
		2	step on R ft
		3	step on L ft
		4	step on R ft across in front of L ft
		&	step back on L ft in place

SEQUENCE OF THE DANCE

<u>MUSIC</u>	<u>BARS</u>		<u>DANCEPATTERN</u>	<u>TIMES</u>	
Intro	8				
A	8	Song	Part 1 "BASIC"	2 x	} 2 x
B	8	Organ	Part 2 "FWD-BKWD"	2 x	
A	8	Song	Part 1 "BASIC"	2 x	
C	4	Gajda - 1	Part 3 "IN PLACE"	1 x	
D	4	Gajda - 2	Part 4 "HOPS"	1 x	
C	4	Gajda - 1	Part 3 "IN PLACE"	1 x	
D	4	Gajda - 2	Part 4 "HOPS"	1 x	