

RAMO, RAMO
Yugoslavia (South Serbia and Macedonia)

Since World War II, a rather simple 3-measure dance of Gypsy origin has spread throughout Southern Serbia and Macedonia. It goes under a variety of local names and is found with a great deal of local and personal variation. U.S. and Canadian folk dancers have been exposed to variants of it under the names Sa, Sa (or Sa), Skopsko cigansko oro, Kjupurlika, Coko, Coko, etc. As an overall generic name for this dance, I have arbitrarily chosen Ramo, Ramo, which is the title of one of the most popular melodies to which it is danced.

Pronunciation: RAH-moh RAH-moh

Records: The dance is done to any good 2/4 tune called Cocek; in class we used Ramo, Ramo, Paprika Press record PP8601-A, Bd 2.

Meter: 2/4

Formation: Open circle, leader at R end. Hands are joined at shoulder height ("W" position). Leader sometimes flourishes a handkerchief in his/her right hand.

NOTE: The description given here is schematic, i.e., gives the basic structure of the dance; there are infinite variations in styling and footwork, however, depending on region, momentary mood, and individual ethnic tradition (the dance is popular among Serbs, Gypsies, Albanians and Macedonians).

- Meas 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step Lft in LOD, passing Rft (ct 1); close Rft to Lft (ct &); step Lft in LOD (ct 2); pause, turning to face ctr (ct &).
- Meas 2 Facing ctr, small step backward on Rft (ct 1); small step backward on Lft (ct 2).
- Meas 3 Still facing ctr, step Rft beside Lft (ct 1); step Lft in place (ct &); step Rft in place (2); pause, turning to face slightly R (ct &).

Presented by Dick Crum at Maine Folk Dance Camp 1987

