

VARNENSKO HORO

(Varna Region, Bulgaria)

This dance is also known as Gagaužko Horo and Vamenski Kjuček. The Gagauzi are Turkish speaking Christians living near Vama in villages such as Brestak (Brestaška Rūčenica).

SOURCE: This arrangement comes from Maria Eftimova

MUSIC:

FORMATION: Open circle with "V" handhold

RHYTHM: 9/8 Dancer's beats: 1-2- 3- 4, slow -quick -quick whereby the 2nd quick is longer than the 1 st.

METER: 9/8

PATTERN

Meas

- 1 **Basic Travel Step R:** This basic step is used predominantly throughout out the dance alternating it with the **Basic Travel Step L** (Same step starting on the L ft). Also, these basic steps can be done moving in any direction or in place. Step Rft with a slight preparatory lift (ct. 1-2); Step Lft beside Rft (ct.3); Step Rft (ct.4).
- 2 Reverse ftwk of meas 1.

10 Measure Horo Pattern

- 1-4 Facing R of center and traveling fwd with slightly out and in zigzag sway, dance 4 **Basic Travel Steps R,L,R,L** fwd.
- 5 Still moving fwd, lift on Lft (ct 1); Step Rft fwd (ct.2); Lift on Rft (ct. 3); Step Lft fwd (ct.4).
- 6 Turning to face center, Step Rft to R side (ct 1-2); step Lft behind Rft (ct.3); Step Rft in place (ct. 4).
- 7 Moving back to L, Lift on Rft (ct. 1); Step Lft to L (ct.2); Lift on L ft (ct.3); Step Rft across and in front ofLft with a slight flexion ofR knee (ct.4).
- 8 Leap onto Lft to L (ct.1); Step Rft behind Lft (ct.2); Leap onto Lft to L (ct. 3); Step Rft Behind Lft (ct 4).
- 9 Repeat action of meas 8.
- 10 Reverse action of meas 6.

Solo Steps with Hand Gestures

Solo I

- 1 Facing center and dancing Basic R, dance fwd diag. L; hands and palms fwd at solar plexus level inscribe an inward i.e. toward each other "circular-polishing"motion with a slow-quick-quick rhythm.
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1 Starting with Basic L and dancing diag. R.
- 3 Dancing Basic R backwards, raise both hands fwd (arms straight at chest level) with palms downs (ct. 1); brings hand gracefully and slowly down (cts.2-3); bring hand up to position in front of solar plexus (one hand in front of other, left hand closer to body) (ct.4).
- 4 Dance Basic L in place and roll hands twd body (cts 1-3); Clap hands together above head and close Lft to Rft (ct. 4).

Solo II (Chorus)

- 1 Dance Basic R in Place turning to face slightly R of center and, with R hand held up above head and L hand down and out to L side, rotate hands inwards at wrists in slow-quick-quick rhythm.
- 2 Reverse action of meas 1.
- 3 With both hands above head, turn CW with Basic R and rotate hands inwards at wrists in a Slow-quick-quick rhythm.
- 4 Click-close Lft to Rft and clap hands above head (ct.1); Hold (ct.2); Click-close Rft to Lft and clap hands above head (ct 3); Hold (ct. 4).

Solo III

- 1 Dance Basic R diag. fwd L and, present hands fwd, palms up at waist level (ct.1.); turn hands over (ct. 2); with palms facing down, push hands fwd.and draw slightly back two times (cts 3 &4)
- 2 Basic L diag R and repeat action of hands in meas 1. 3-4 Repeat action of meas 3-4 of Solo I

Sequence:

10 Meas Horo 4x
Solo I 2x
Solo II 2x
Solo III 2x
Solo II 2x