

Zagorski Drmeši

Zagorje, Croatia

Girl (maybe) kidnapped by Turks.

"Drmeš" is the most popular and the most important dance in northwestern part of Croatia and "Hrvatsko Zagorje" in particular. Usually in group of four, dancers show off various skills, such as, when they dance around a post or a full glass of wine, revolving with a great speed. The occasions on which dancing is mostly done are church festivals and fairs, then various events in connections with Christmas and Easter, weddings, and particularly the Carnival.

Željko did research in the village of Mače, near Marija Bistrica, and the village of Mađarevo, near Novi Marof, in 1979 until 1985.

TRANSLATION: A "shaking dance" (drmeš) from Zagorje Region

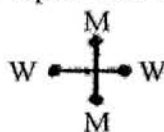
PRONUNCIATION: ZAH-goohr-skee DER-meh-shee

MUSIC: "Sviraj svir e drmeša," by Skitnitce, track 15

FORMATION: 2 cpls with W on MR side.

M: M face with R hands joined in a shaking handhold, free hand is low on hip with fingers fwd.

W: W face with R hands on top of wrist of M on R, free hand on waist with fingers fwd.



STEPS: Pas-de-basque (PDB):

Meas 1: Small leap on R to R as L knee lifts fwd (ct 1); step L in front of R (ct &); leap R back to place (ct 2). Repeat with opp ftwk. All steps are flat footed and heavy.

Drmeš in place (body shake):

The entire body trembles. Ft are flat on the ground and knees flex (tremble) which causes the entire body to vibrate. Knees are continuously bent.

Drmeš to R:

Meas 1: Moving sdwd R - step R to R with knee bent slightly (down) (ct 1); close R beside L and bounce 2 times on both ft (up-up) (cts 2-&). When moving to L use opp ftwk. Knees are slightly stiffer than when doing the regular drmeš, most of the bounce comes from the ankles.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: 4 meas

A **FIG. I-A: LEAPS**

1 Low leap on R in front of L as L lifts bkwd slightly off floor (ct 1); low leap diag L bkwd on L as R lifts slightly fwd off of floor (ct 2). Move slightly to L with this step.

2-8 Repeat meas 1, 7 more times. (8 in all)

FIG. I-B: JUMPS

- 9 Jump in place onto both ft (R fwd of L) (ct 1); bounce on both ft with knee flexes (ct 2).
- 10-16 Repeat meas 1, alternating ft pos, 7 more times. (8 in all)
Note: Wt mostly on balls of ft, with heels slightly off of floor.

B FIG. II-A: PDB IN PLACE

- 1-8 Do 8 PDB in place, beg R.

FIG. II-B: DRMEŠ IN PLACE

- 9-16 Drmeš (shake) in place - release hand and place them on the hips with fingers fwd.

REPEAT DANCE FROM BEG ONE MORE TIME

C FIG. III-A: DRMEŠ SDWD R,L,R,L

Rejoin in orig pos.

- 1-4 Do 4 drmeš to R.
5-8 Do 4 drmeš to L.
9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

D FIG. IV-A: BUZZ & BUZZ WITH LIFT

Hands: Retaining R hand pos (M, L hands joined, W hands on top of M wrist). With L hand, both M and W grasp L persons arm from underneath, just above the elbow.

Style: Knees are bent with upper body leaning (pulling) slightly bkwd.

- 1 CW buzz: Step R across L on full ft (ct 1); step L fwd on ball of ft (heel only slightly off floor).
- 2-8 Repeat meas 1, 7 more times. (8 in all). Rotation is fairly fast.
- 9-16 CW buzz with lift: Repeat meas 1-8 (8 in all), except on ct 1 - lower L leg lifts bkwd so that it is almost parallel to floor. Rotate even faster.

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REPEAT FIG. I, meas 1-16

REPEAT FIG. II, meas 1-16

REPEAT FIG. III, meas 1-16

REPEAT FIG. IV, (meas 1-16),

except on last meas - stamp R,L in place (cts 1-2).



Presented by Željko Jergan

Dance notes by Željko Jergan & Dorothy Daw, 11-01