

DRIANOVSKA RACHENITSA

Дряновска Ръченица
(Bulgaria - Severnyashko)

A slow *rachenitsa* from Northeastern Bulgaria . Learned from the *Sider Vojvoda* Ensemble in Gorna Oryahovitsa in 1972. This style of slow *rachenitsa* is common to many of the historic small towns along the Balkan range often performed by older villagers in a specific slow and proud "urban" style. The dance can be done to other slow tunes in 7/8 meter (QQS) but Yves Moreau was inspired by this rendition of the popular North Bulgarian song *Izgrjala e mesechinka* sung a capella by *Trio Bulgarka Penev*.

Pronunciation: DRIAN-of-skah Ruh-tcheh-NEEH-tsah
Music: Yves Moreau CD
Rhythm: 7/8, counted here as 1-2-, 1-2, 1-2-3 or 1,2,3 or q-q-S
Formation: Mixed lines, hands up in W pos.Face LOD wt on L.
Style: Fairly large steps. Proud and calm.

Meter: 7/8

Pattern

Introduction: Four (4) meas.: "Izgrjala e mesečinka...". Dancers may do 4 "râčenica" basics from L to R

1. Travelling in LOD

- 1 Step fwd on R with knee bend (1) close L to R (2) step fwd on R (3)
- 2 Step fwd on L with knee bend (1) close R to L (2) step fwd on L (3)
- 3 Facing ctr, large step sdwd on R to R, arms extend fwd and down (1) pause (2) step on L behind R, arms continue down (3)
- 4 Step on R facing LOD, arms start to go up (1) pause (2) lift on R, arms settle in W pos (3)
- 5 Step fwd on L in front of R (1) pause (2) lift on L, turning to face ctr and swinging R leg around fwd (3)
- 6 Still facing ctr, step onto R across L in LOD (1) pause (2) lift on L, picking up L ft slightly behind R leg (3)
- 7 Facing ctr, light hop or lift onto R, arms extend up (1) step on L to L, arms extend fwd (2) step on R behind L, arms are down (3)
- 8 Large step on L to L, arms begin to move upwd (1) pause (2) light hop or lift on L, arms are in W pos (3)

2. Fwd and back with arm extensions

- 1 Facing ctr, large sof step fwd onto R, simult. extending softly both arms straight fwd and raising L ft off ground (1) pause (2) step onto L ft fwd, bending knee, arms retract to W pos (3)
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1
- 3 Lift or light hop onto L, simult. extending arms up and fwd (ct ah) large step fwd onto R, bending R knee, arms continue extension dwnd (1) pause (2) straighten R knee (3)
- 4 Same ft action fwd beginning with opp ft, arms come back slowly to W pos

Drianovska Rachenitsa (cont'd) page 2

- 5-6 Two "râcenica" steps bkwd R-L-R, L-R-L, low bent knee style, arms in W pos
- 7-8 Same action as in meas 3-4 but moving bkwd
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8

Presented by Yves Moreau