



# Virtual Dance Room Cue Cards

## Session #4 – April 17, 2020



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**Door County Folk Festival**

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# Opsa

**Serbian/Turbofolk**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: A spontaneous exclamation often used while dancing – no exact translation, but something like “whee!”, “yippee!”, or “ee-haw!”**

Opsa is in the genre of the Turbofolk form of music popular in parts of former Yugoslavia. Per Dick Crum circa 1993: Opsa is currently one of the most popular dances at Croatian & Serbian dance events in the major cities of the Upper Midwest & the Pennsylvania/Ohio area. Its melody is relatively recent, having been composed & recorded in former Yugoslavia about a decade ago. The origins of the dance per se are obscure. It seems to have arisen here in the U.S., possibly around Pittsburgh. On the other hand, its structure has the same 5-measure pattern as Vranjanka (Belo Lence, I Banu Ide, etc.). I first saw & learned it at the Tamburitza Extravaganza weekend in Los Angeles, 1993, where tamburitza players & fans of tamburitza music from all over the U.S. had gathered, and Opsa was played & danced dozens of times.

# Devetorka

**a.k.a. Biala Rosa, Tri Godini**  
**Macedonian/Bulgarian/Serbian**  
**Open Circle**  
**9/8 meter (QQQS)**

**Translation: The nine**

This dance is commonly found throughout Macedonia, Bulgaria and Serbia. It is structurally identical to a basic village Gankino/Kopanica, but is in 9/8 rather than 11/8. In areas where it is done, the dance is often called by the name of the song.

# Deninka

a.k.a. Ordan Sedi

Bulgaria

Open circle

7/8 meter (SQQ)

**Translation: A girl's name**

This version was introduced to the IFD community by by Dick Crum in the late 1960s. Other dances called Deninka have been taught by Yves Moreau, Jaap Leegwater, Andon Antonov and Nina Koleva.

# Çine Are Noroc Are

**Romanian/Roma**

**Individuals**

**4/4 meter**

**Translation: He who has good luck**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Maurits van Geel. It has also been taught by Roberto Bagnoli and Ira Weisburd. It was choreographed in honor of Cristi Catargiu of the Het International Danstheater, who died in a helicopter crash in Australia in 2008. The tune was one of his favorites.

# **Rukavice**

**a.k.a. Rukavica, Todore, Valpovačka Kola**

**Croatian/Slavonian**

**Closed circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Gloves**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dennis Boxell in the early 1970s and later by Zelko Jergan. It has been found in several villages in East Slavonia in the vicinity of Valpovo and Osijek

# An Dro Retourné

**French/Brittany**

**Open Circle or Closed Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: The turn returned**

This version of the An Dro was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau. It is a choreographed version of the basic village dance An Dro. It is traditionally done to the song "Changerez Tu?" or its equivalent in the Breton Language "Chañj Tu". While in IFD groups the dance is done in an open circle, according to former Chicago resident Bernard Le Coq, in Brittany the dance is done in closed circles. This dance is in the family of line dances from Western and Northern Europe that lead to the left (Passu Torrau, Ballo Sardo, Langdans, Hanter Dro, etc.).

# **Fado Portugues De Nos**

**Portugal**

**Closed Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Portuguese Fado (song) of ours**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Ira Weisburd who learned it at Jeannette Schwartzman's class in Drunen (the Netherlands). It is sung by: the Portuguese Singer Mariza



# Kumanovsko Oro

**Macedonian**

**Open Circle**

**4/4 meter**

**Translation: Dance (oro) from Kumanovo**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau in the 1990s who observed it in Bitola, Macedonia in the 1970s. It is done to the song Što Mi Omilelo Male. Kumanovo is a city in North Macedonia and the seat of Kumanovo Municipality, the largest municipality in the country.

# **Moj Maro, Moj Marinë**

**Albanian**

**Open Circle**

**Fast 3/8 meter or slow 12/8 meter**

**Translation: Girl's names, Maro and Marinë**

This dance was arranged from traditional Albanian music and dance material dance steps and forms from the Kolonje region of Southern Albania and introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky.

# Sa Sa

a.k.a. Skopski Sa Sa, Sa  
Macedonian/Serbian/Roma

Open Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: not sure

This is a five-measure version of a Choček that is a very common Rom or Gypsy dance done throughout the Balkans with a concentration Macedonia and Serbia. The word Choček name means "little camel" and is a reference to male courtesans and dancing boys in Ottoman times.

The recording we're using for this is the high-energy "Disko Partizani" by the producer and musician Stefan Hantel, better known by his stage name Shantel who is known for his work with gypsy brass orchestras, DJing and remixing traditional Balkan music with electronic beats.

**Catherine Rudin – Wayne, NE**

# Zazpi Jautziak

**Basque (French/Spanish) (Navarre and Basse-Navarre)**

**Individuals in a Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Seven jumps**

**Zazpi Jautziak another popular** Basque line dance formed of simple patterns and called (similarly to the way square dances and contra dances are called). Originally from the Valcarlos area between the basque provinces of Navarre and Basse-Navarre on the French-Spanish border, Hegi is now danced in most basque cities and among American basques.

**Theresa Utschig – Milwaukee, WI**

# Tallava 2

**Kosovans in Germany**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Under the Hands (Romany)**

This Tallava (from the Romany Tel o vas, under the hand), is a modern music/dance genre originating in Kosovo in the 1990s among the Ashkali (Albanian-speaking Roma). This Tallava has a 7-count pattern. It's related to Chocek, Chalga, Manele, Skiladiko and Turbo Folk genres of music from neighboring countries. This Tallava dance-step is popular among younger Albanians in the Albanian "diaspora", especially in Germany. This was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky. Note: Shani Rifati teaches a Romany dance he calls Telo Vas.

# **Boaliysko Horo**

**Bulgarian/Thracian**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Not sure?**

This version of Boaliysko was introduced to the IFD community by Roberto Bagnoli. Yuliyana Yordanova and other instructors have introduced other versions a dance named Boaliysko.



# **Kupondjisko Horo**

**Bulgarian / Modern**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Dance (horo) of the ragpickers**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky. Not sure about the origins of this dance, but it seems to be very popular among Bulgarians in the club scene and in the IFD community.

# **Lisu Seven Step**

**Chinese/Lisu Minority Group**

**Open Circle**

**7/4 meter (1234567)**

**Translation: n/a**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky. It is a dance form done by the minority group called the “Lisu” who live in Southwestern China, Northern Burma and also in Eastern India. Steps in this dance have a similar look and feel to steps found in dances from the Balkans

# **Erev Ba**

**Israeli**

**Closed circle or individuals**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: An evening has come**

This version of Erev Ba was choreographed by Yoel Ashriel in 1960 and is the most common form of the dance done in the IFD community. A different dance with the same name was taught by Rivka Sturman.

There is also a couple dance version done to Ashriel's choreography

# Marichensko Pravo Horo

**Bukgarian**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Straight dance (pravo) from Maricheno**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau in 1969, who learned it at a wedding in the Bulgarian town of Maricheno (near Sofia).

# **Pata Pata**

**South African  
Individuals  
2/4 meter**

**Translation: Touch, Touch**

This dance and song was introduced to the world by Miriam Makeba and her ensemble in her world tours throughout the 1960s. They did a number of variations of this foot touching dance and at least two versions are done in the IFD community. This high-energy version of the song was done by the Skatalites (a Jamaican Ska Band) and is often used as break music on the NPR news program “All Things Considered”.

**Patti Cohen – Winnipeg, MB**

# Merak Chocek

**a.k.a. Chocek Za Merak, Romsko Bitolsko Oro**  
**Macedonian/Roma**  
**Open Circle**  
**2/4 meter**

## **Translation: Impassioned Chocek**

Chocek is the generic name for the dances from the Roma (Gypsy) communities in Macedonia. Paul Mulders learned this particular one in Bitola in the 1980s. He originally identified it as "Romsko Bitolsko oro," until he found this stunning music from the band "Mladi Talenti" (Young Talents). "Merak" means great love or passion, so Chocek za merak is the impassioned Chocek. It has also been taught by Michael Ginsburg. - The word Chocek means "little camel" and is a reference to male courtesans and dancing boys in Ottoman times.

# **Makazice & Bela Rada**

**Serbian**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Scissors & White Daisy  
(Rada is a girl's name)**

These dances were introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum in the 1960s. They are separate dances but were often done together as they were issued on one side of a record on Michael Herman's Folk Dancer record label. This recording is by the Duquense University Tamburitzans. Bela Rada is a 10-measure dance with the structure of a 10-measure Čačak.



# Alunelul de la Urzica

**Romanian**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Hazlenut from the Nettle**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community  
Sunni Bloland who learned it from Puiu Vasilescu in  
Bucharest.

# **Raina Samodiva**

**a.k.a. Samodiva**

**Bulgarian**

**Open Circle**

**7/8 meter (SQQ)**

**Translation: Raina's (singer) woodland nymphs (song)**

This dance was arranged by and introduced to the IFD community by Ventzi Sotirov and has also been taught by Lee Otterholt. Samodivas are woodland nymphs. The song is by the popular Bulgarian singer Rayna.

# Buchimish

**Bulgarian**

**Open Circle**

**15/16 meter (QQQQSQQ)**

**Translation: You clap**

The most common and popular version of the dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum. Dennis Boxell introduced a version earlier that did not become as popular. Many dancers in the Bulgarian community do a much simpler 4-measure version and are not familiar with the IFD variations. Iliana Bozhanova has also introduced a version Ihtiman region in Thrace

**Patti Cohen – Winnipeg, MB**

# Chala-Chala

Greek/Pontian  
Open Circle  
7/8 meter (QQS)

**Translation: Auntie, Auntie**

This dance was introduced in the IFD community by Joe Graziosi and Kyriakos Moisodes. It was also taught by Patti Cohen at DCFF 2009, who learned it from Panagiotis Apostolidis at the Greek Dance Seminar, Prespes. Pontians living in Asia Minor were resettled into the Greek mainland during the population exchanges of the mid-1920's, mostly in Macedonia. Pontian culture is alive today. Pontian dances have caught on among Macedonian and Thracian neighbors, so that you can see other northern Greeks doing *Tik* and *Dipat*. There is a really vibrant Pontian Society in Chicago that throws Pontian Night Parties several times a year.

# Momačka Šetnja

a.k.a. Šilinja Šetnja

Serbian

Open Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: Bachelor's walking dance

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by the Aman Ensemble, Ciga Despotovic and Bora Gaijcki and is an up-beat version of the walking dance Šetnja.

# Zek Zek Dadumle

**Macedonian/Roma**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Name of a song, not sure**

This dance is another modern form of a Chocek and was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky. It was recently taught by Robert Bagnoli over Zoom during the virtual workshop for the Folk Arts Center of New England (FACONE) to over 400 people from around the world. There are various versions of Chocek music that can be used for this dance.

# **W'Moim Ogrodecku**

**Polish-Like  
Individuals in Circle  
2/4 meter**

**Translation: In my garden plot**

This is a “Polish-like” Circle Dance choreographed and introduced to the International Folk Dance Community by Ira Weisburd, who is an American Folk Dance Instructor. This is an example of the “folk process” in action as an American dancer has arranged a “Polish” dance that is now even being performed by some groups in Poland.



**Leigh Holden – Denver, CO Area**

# **Hora din Giurgiulești**

**Romanian**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Dance (hora) from the village of Giurgiulești**

Hora din Giurgiulești is from the village of Giurgiulești in southern Moldova. It was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky and Lee Otterholt. The Hora is a national dance that requires a relatively large group of people to hold hands and form a circle. There can be several circles one inside of the other, all moving in opposite directions. This dance was choreographed by George and Irina Arabagi.

# **Tsamikos Daliana**

**Greek**

**Open Circle**

**6/8 meter**

**Translation: Tsamikos (dance) of the Dhalia (flower)**

This variant of a 12-count Tsamikos was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky and Joe Graziosi. It was recently taught by Joe Graziosi over Zoom during the virtual workshop for the Folk Arts Center of New England (FACONE) to over 400 people from around the world. There are various versions of Tsamikos music that can be used for this dance.

# Sandansko Horo

**Bulgarian/Pirin**

**Open Circle**

**9/16 + 9/16 + 2/4 + 2/4 meter (QQQS + QQQS + Q + Q)  
or 9/16 + 13/16 (QQQS + QQSQQ)**

**(9/16 = Daychovo – 13/16 = Krivo Sadovsko)**

## **Translation: Dance from Sandanski**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau in 1969. This dance comes from the area around the town of Sandanski in Pirin in Southwest Bulgaria.

Most Bulgarians I have spoken with about a dance called Sandansko think about an eight-measure dance in 7/8 (SQQ) meter that that they also know as Maleshevsko, Chetvorno, Blagojevgradsko and Megdansko, among other names.

# **Haide Kalino**

**Bulgarian/Rhodopes**

**Open Circle**

**4/4 meter**

**Translation:** Come on Kalino (a boy's name)

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by  
Yves Moreau.

# **Ciganko**

**Macedonian/Roma**

**Open Circle**

**2/4 meter**

**Translation: Gypsy/Roma boy**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Michael Gunsburg who learned it from Belcho Stanev.

# Kyustenilska Rutchenitza

**Bulgarian  
Open Circle  
7/8 meter (QQS)**

**Translation: Rutchenitza (dance) from the city of Kyustendil**

This is a version of the standard 10-measure Rutchenitza from the Shopluk area in Western Bulgaria. It was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau and later by Ron Wixman. Other Shop Rutchentizi of this genre that have been introduced by other Bulgarian teachers include Shopska Rutchenitza, Kopcheto and Selska Rutchenitza.

NOTE: The song we've traditionally used for this dance (Snoÿshti si Rada pristana) is better suited for dancing a Trakijska (Thracian) Rutchenitza.

**Leigh Holden – Denver, CO Area**



# **Arkadikos Horos**

**a.k.a. Diplos Horos**

**Greek**

**Open Circle**

**7/8 meter (SQQ) plus 6/8 meter**

**Translation: Dances from Arkadia**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by John Pappas (California). This dance comes from areas around Arcadia, a region in the central and eastern part of the Peloponnese, Greece. It is also known as Diplos Horos (a double dance) referring to the switching back and forth between Syrtos Kalamatianos music (7/8) and Tamikos music (6/8).

# Mindrele

Romanian/Oltenia

Open Circle

6/8 meter counted variously as the following:

(Q= quick, s = Slow, S = Slower)

Translation: Pretty girl

This version of the dance was introduced to the IFD community by Sunni Bloland, whose notes say that the dance was traditionally danced by "older women", but the dance name means "pretty girl". The dance is from the town of Obirsia in Dolj, Oltenia. . There is another faster version of the Mindrele commonly done by folk dancers that was introduced by Mihai David.

# **Dhivarotikos**

**a.k.a. Syrto Keffalonias**

**Greek/Ionian**

**Open Circle**

**3/4 meter**

**Translation: Dance (syrto) from Dhivara (a village)**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Vyts Belajius and more recently by Joe Graziosi. It is a 4-measure Syrto modified to dance in 3/4 meter. Music from the Ionian Islands show a marked Western influence due to the long-time Italian/Venetian presence there. The village of Divara is located on the Ionian group island of Kefalla

# Sej Sej Bop

**Bulgarian/Dobrudjan**

**Open Circle**

**7/8 meter (QQS)**

**Translation: Planting beans**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau, who learned it from Liliana Zafirova and Stfan Vâglarov in Sofia. This is typical Dobrudzhan Rutcheniza similar to Kucata, Brasni Carvul and Pandalash. Confusingly there is another dance called Sej Bob, taught by Roberto Bagnoli, that is different.

# Trgnla Rumjana

**Bulgarian**

**Open Circle**

**7/8 meter (SQQ)**

**Translation: ?**

Sfarlis was introduced to the IFD community by Dennis Boxell and Dimitri Tashie, Bulgarian word “izfurli” meaning to hurl or throw out.

# Legnala Dana

**Macedonian**

**Open Circle**

**7/8 meter (SQQ)**

**Translation: ?**

Sfarlis was introduced to the IFD community by Dennis Boxell and Dimitri Tashie, and more recently revisited/corrected by Kyriakos Moisidis. It comes from the village of Bana and was first learned by Dennis from Ioanna Papantoniou who documented it during a Macedonian Dance Festival in Florina. According to Dennis' research, "Sfarlis" is a Hellenization of the Bulgarian word "izfurli" meaning to hurl or throw out.



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[virtualdanceroom@ethnicdance.net](mailto:virtualdanceroom@ethnicdance.net)



+1 847-846-8139

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