



Virtual Dance Room Cue Cards

Session #10 – May 29, 2020

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Virtual Dance Room

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Ethnic Dance Chicago

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Door County Folk Festival

(www.dcff.net)



Paul Collins – Skokie, IL

Early Workshop - Repertoire Dances

Starčeska Ruchenitza

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

Translation: Ruchenitza (dance) of the elderly folks

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau, who learned it in 1970 from a village group from Sapareva Banja. The styling of the dance is slow and heavy and was done primarily by older people. It should have the styling of an older person. Starčeska means "Elderly". This is a 10-measure Ruchenitza, with an optional 8-measure Napred/Nazad (forward/back) bridge.

Take It Easy Baby

**a.k.a. Sexy Back
Zydeco / USA**

4-Corners Line Dance

4/4 meter

Translation: n/a

Sexy Back was introduced to the IFD community by Rick King at the Door County Folk Festival – Origins unknown.

Take It Easy Baby was introduced to the IFD Community by Paul Collins who learned about it from a Cousin in Louisiana and then who found it being done on a youtube video.

The dances are identical except for the very first step and for the music and for the different mood that each song invokes.

Povlekana

Bulgarian/Dobrudjan

Open Circle

7/8 meter (QQS)

Translation: dragged or swept

This form of a Ruchenitsa dance was first introduced to the IFD community by Dimitar “Mitko” Manov in the early 1980s and most recently by Iliana Bozhanova in her FACONE online workshop and in her recent tours to the USA.

Transition Dances – 1

Theresa Utschig (Milwaukee, WI)

Bufchansko

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

Translation: [dance] from the town of Buf

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Atanas Kolarovski and was also taught by Pece Atanasovski and other instructors. The back story of this dance is that it is probably not an original dance from Buf. It supposedly was introduced to the Tanec Ensemble by Simos Konstantinou as a dance from Buf. However, the dance structure is suspiciously similar to the Greek Kritikos Syrtos (and to Miserlou which is supposedly a derivative of Kritikos).

Le Maître de la Maison

French/Alsace

Individuals in a Circle

4/4 meter

Translation: The master of the house

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Marilyn Smith and is a Branle from Alsace.

Programmed & Request Dances - 1

Šetnja

a.k.a. Haj Haj Bože Daj
Serbian
Open circle
2/4 meter

Translation: Strolling/walking dance

Dick Crum learned it in 1954 from Miodrag Vuković and subsequently taught it to folk dancers in the USA from 1958 on. Dick observed Šetnja being danced at many gatherings in Šumadija southeast of Beograd. In Šumadija, Šetnja is a time-honored traditional dance with a definite place in the day's activities. When a young man arrives at the field or church yard where a festivity is taking place, he seeks out one of the many Gypsy musicians who have come to town for the day, pays him a certain amount of money to play for him, then proceeds to gather his friends one by one on his left. The dance they usually do is Setnja, and they meander about the entire dancing area gathering up people.

Syrtos

Greek
Open Circle
2/4 meter

Translation: to pull or to drag the dance

This dance has been in the IFD community forever and is a folk dance in which dancers link hands to form a chain or circle, headed by a leader who intermittently breaks away to perform improvised steps. Syrtos, along with its relative Kalamatianos (Syrtos as done in Kalamata), are the most popular dances throughout Greece and Cyprus, and are frequently danced by the Greek diaspora worldwide. Syrtos and Kalamatianos use the same dance steps, but the syrtos is in 2/4 time and the Kalamatianos is in 7/8 (SQQ).

Kyustenilska Ruchenitza

Bulgarian
Open Circle
7/8 meter (QQS)

Translation: Ruchenitza (dance) from the city of Kyustendil

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

NOTE: The song we've traditionally used for this dance (*Snoÿshti si Rada pristana*) is a Thracian song, better suited for dancing a Trakijska (Thracian) Ruchenitza. Such shop style dances are usually done to faster music.

Rumelaj

a.k.a. Jeni Jol

Macedonian/Romany

Open Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: Rumelaj is the Byzantine (later Ottoman) name for a province of Macedonia called Rumelia south of the Stara Planina (Balkan) mountains.

Rumelaj is a Rom/Gypsy three-measure Chocheck popular in Kočani, in Eastern Macedonia. This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky. The song lyrics are apparently a mixture of Romany and Romanian. Jana Rickel reported that Ian Hancock (Romany Nation's UN Ambassador and a linguist) translated the song words as and that they rather "dirty".

Translation posted at: <https://sfdh.us/encyclopedia/rumelaj.html>

Te Aven Baxtele

**Romanian
Individuals
2/4 meter**

Translation: Break a leg

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by
Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion.

Zhensko Chamche

**Macedonian
Open Circle
7/8 meter (SQQ)**

Translation: Women's Cham dance
(Cham in Bulgarian means pine or fir tree)

Originally taught by either George Tomov or Atanas Kolarovski -- there is some debate as to who actually introduced it – to my knowledge it was Atanas. Pece Atanasovski taught a more esoteric version to slower and more irregular music in which slow step is less rhythmic and more free form in meter. In the Atanas version there is a clear SQQ beat through the entire dance. The word Chamche most likely shares its origins with the Çam people and dances such as Tsamiko (Greek) and Çame (Albanian).

Shantel

**Romanian/Bukovina
Circle
4/4 meter**

Translation: The “stage name” of Stefan Hantel

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Maurits and Tineke van Geel. Stefan Hantel is a descendent of Bucovina Germans who once lived in NE Romania and is the producer of the “Bucovina Club” music from Germany. Much of Shantel’s productions are influenced by Klezmer and Roma music.

However, it should be noted that the tune “Bucovina” is a “rip-off” of the song “Black But Sweet” written and recorded by the Trinidadian Calypso musician Wilmoth Houdini (1895-1973) sometime in the 1930s or 1940s.

Shatty Ya Deney

**Lebanese
Open Circle
4/4 meter**

Translation: Rain in abundance

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Tom Bozigian and later by Rick King (leader of the Detroit Folkdance Club) at the Door County Folk Festival. This song is adaptable for many Debka type dances. Within the IFD community, there seems to be a number of ways of doing this particular dance. The song is by the artist Fairuz, one of the most respected singers in the Arabic world.

Announcements - 1

Šestorka

**Eastern Serbian
Short Lines – Belt Hold
4/4 meter**

Translation: The six

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum and others. This recording is by the Kolo Ensemble during one of their tours in the USA in the early 1960s. There are many variations of this popular dance done at Serbian dance parties, by Serbian dance ensembles and by international folk dance groups in the USA.

Hora pe Gheăṭa

Romanian/Oltenia

Open Circle

2/4 Meter

Translation: Dance (hora) of the Ice

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Sunni Bloland, and later by Mihai David. The dance mimics skating on ice. Sunni's original version originally had only the ice skating variation but the version she taught in the mid-1970s added a second alternating variation – a Hora Mare step; and she used a different tune. Mihai David re-introduced the original ice-skating only dance using an updated version of the of the original tune. This time, we'll do the Sunni's second version with the Hora Mare variation added.

Cigansko Horo

a.k.a. Ciganskoto Horo

Bulgarian / Modern

Open Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: Roma/Gypsy Dance (horo)

Not sure about the origins of this version of this dance, but it seems to be very popular among Bulgarians in the club scene and in the IFD community.

Gruchkoto

Bulgarian/Pirin

Open Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: The Greek One

Gruchkoto was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky. It has also been taught by Yuliyan Yordanov. The dance is very popular in Bulgarian parties and festivals and can be done to many different pieces of music, especially to vocal and instrumental pieces in modern ethno-pop style.

Sheikhani

**Assyrian/Chaldean
Open Circle
4/4 meter**

Translation: Prince

There is a subgroup among the Assyrian community known as Chaldeans. This Chaldean version of Sheikhani was introduced to the IFD community by Rick King at the Door County Folk Festival who learned it from Jerry Abro, a Chaldean who used to dance regularly with the Detroit Folkdance Club.

Various versions of this dance have been taught by Ricky Holden, Gary Lind-Sinanian, Dennis Boxell, Tom Bozigan, Steve Kotansky and Vyts Beliajus. Holden observed the dance done by Assyrians in Iran in the late 1950s.

Starčeska Ruchenitza

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Open Circle
7/8 meter (QQS)**

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Translation: dragged or swept

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Linore Huss– Kingsport, TN

Harmonica

Israeli

**Open Circle
4/4 meter**

Translation: Accordion

The dance was choreographed and introduced to the IFD community by Rivka Sturman in 1956. It was also taught by Dvora Lapsom and Miriam Lidster.

Maloj Mome

Macedonian

Open circle

7/8 meter (QQS)

Translation: My little one

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Atanas Kolarovski in the middle 1960s and is said to be from the town of Kumanovo.

Jove Male Mome

a.k.a. Jove Malaj Mome, Povela E Jove

Bulgarian

Open circle

7/8 meter + 11/16 meter (SQQ + SQQ + QQSQQ)

Translation: Jove (name), little girl

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dennis Boxell and Dick Crum in the middle 1960s. It is from the Šop region and is also found in neighboring East Serbia. There has been some controversy about the spelling of the name. Apparently malaj is the correct pronunciation in the Šopluk dialect, but American Folk Dancers have learned the name over the past 50 years using "male".

Sepastia Bar

Armenian

Open circle

2/4 meter

Translation: Dance (bar) from Sepastia

Various versions of this dance have been introduced to the IFD community by Tom Bozian, Ron Wixman, Steve Glaser, Susan Lind-Sinamian, Richard Kassabian and others.

Yovano Yovanke

Macedonian
Open Circle
7/8 meter (SQQ)

Translation: John (Yovan) and Joan (Yovanke)

This dance has been in the IFD community forever. It is a basic Lesnoto – 3-measure dance moving to the right.

The dance comes from Kruševo and was originally learned by Michel Cartier (Montreal), and widely taught by Dick Crum. This popular Macedonian song is about two young lovers separated by their disapproving parents

Programmed & Request Dances - 2

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).

Brestachka Ratchenitza

Bulgarian/Dobrudjan

Open Circle

7/8 meter (QQS)

Translation: Ratchenitza (dance) from Brestak

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky and Belcho Stanev. It is a dance of Turkish-speaking Christians (Gagauzi) in Brestak, Bulgaria.

Nabrala Je

Croatian/Medjimurje

Closed Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: The girl gathers cherries...

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Željko Jergan. Željko recently taught the dance over Zoom during the virtual workshop at the Folk Arts Center of New England to over 400 people from around the world during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For A Birthday (Születésnapra)

a.k.a. Ugrós

Hungarian

Individuals

2/4 meter

**Translation: The name of the song (Születésnapra)
translates into For a Birthday**

This dance is a basic form of the Ugrós style of Hungarian men's dances (originally for men only) and was arranged by and introduced to the IFD community by Andor Czompo.

Announcements – 2
Happy Birthday Penny!

Penny Brichta – Lake Geneva, WI

Shoof-Ni

**Israeli
Closed Circle
2/4 meter**

Translation: Look at me! (Arabic)

Israel Yakovee grew up in a traditional Yemenite family. He danced professionally with Inbal, the predominate Yemenite dance troupe in Israel. His dances reflect his Yemenite heritage and are popular in the Israeli dance repertoire. Shoof-Ni was choreographed in 1993. The song was composed by Tzion Golan.

Hora Medura

Israeli

Closed Circle

4/4 meter

Translation: Dance (Hora) of the Campfire

This dance was choreographed by Yo'av Ashreil in 1963. Yoav was one of the early creators of Israeli dance and created many of the now "classic" dances. The song is reminiscent of the early settlers who worked in agriculture on the kibbutz (collective settlement). They worked in the fields and then came together in the evening around a campfire to play music and dance.

Debka Dror

Israeli

Closed Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: Dance (Debka) of freedom

This dance was choreographed by David Alfassy in
1987.

Lechu Nerenena

**Israeli
Closed Circle
4/4 meter**

Translation: Go and rejoice!

This dance was choreographed by Shmulik Gov-Ari in 1983. Dance by Shmulik Gov-Ari. The song is "Shir Shabbat" by Boaz Sharabi and features memories of a Yemenite family preparing for and gathering together to enjoy the Sabbath. The movements are Yemenite style using the arm and hands as well as traditional Yemenite steps. The steps can be performed in a syncopated rhythm, done in a slow-quick-quick rhythm rather than the quick-quick-slow rhythm.

T'filati

Israeli

Open Circle

3/4 meter

Translation: My prayer

An Israeli dance choreographed by Avner Naim
based on Psalm 55:2:7:17 to a song written and
sung by Naomi Shemer

Programmed & Request Dances – 2a

Godečki Čačak

**East Serbian
Open Circle
4/4 meter**

**Translation: Dance [type = Čačak] from the City of
Godech (Bulgaria)**

This was introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum. It has a structure common to many East Serbian and West Bulgarian dances (such as Za Pojas and Shopska Ruchenitza) that being 5 measures to the right followed by 5 identical measures to the left.

Paydoushko Oro

Macedonian & Bulgarian

(a.k.a. Paidushka, Paidushkata, Pajdushka, etc.)

Open Circle

5/8 meter (QS)

**Translation: No other meaning in Macedonian or Bulgarian
other than the name of a dance**

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum. There are many local forms/variants of the dance throughout Macedonia and Bulgaria, as well as in Romania (Paidusca), Greece (Baidouska, Baidouskino) and Albania. This recording is by the famous Kosta Macedonian Orchestra.

Laz Bar

a.k.a. Luz Bar, Laz Bhar

Armenian

Open Circle

7/8 meter (QQS) & & 2/4 meter

Translation: Dance (bar) of the Laz people

This dance has been in the IFD community forever, and was introduced to the IFD community in 1962 by John Filcich who learned it from Frances Ajoian Schledewitz.

Ravno Oro

Macedonian

Gender Segregated Lines (Traditionally)
7/8 meter (SQQ)

Translation: Early dance (oro)

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dennis Boxell in the early 1960s after he learned it from the “mysterious” Phillip Thornton’s Yugoslav Dance Group in London, England. The music is played by the Mali Orchestra of Radio Skopje

Salty Dog Rag

**USA Round Dance
Partner dance Adapted for Individuals
2/4 meter**

Translation: A Salty Dog is a nickname for an ornery Sailor or Marine who has spent much of his or her life aboard a ship at sea. A Salty Dog is also called old salt or true grit.

Salty Dog Rag is a “novelty” American Round dance arranged in the late 1950's (possibly by Rickey Holden) and still popular in Folk Dance and Square dance groups. Those who can will do it as couples and those who can't will do it alone. The tune is a derivative of the song song Ballin' the Jack, which is a schottish type song. The dance is a derivative of the “Castle Schottish that was created by Vernon and Irene Castle, a husband-and-wife team of ballroom dancers and dance teachers who appeared on Broadway and in silent films in the early 20th century and who are credited with reviving the popularity of modern ballroom dancing.

Programmed & Request Dances - 3

Sweet Girl (Sirun Aghchik)

Armenian
Open Circle
2/4 meter

Translation: Sweet Girl

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Tom Bozian. Sirun Aghchik is a traditional Armenian folk song. After the Armenian Holocaust, survivors scattered around the world and one point of concentration was Fresno, California.

With so much of their cultural heritage and memory destroyed, and with many of the original immigrants aging out, Armenians decided to fill a cultural gap by holding contests for best new Armenian dance.

The Armenian dance to the song Sirun Aghchik created by the 15-year old Tom Bozian was the 1953 contest winner.

Divna Divna

**Serbian/Banat
Open Circle
2/4 meter**

Translation: Wonderful, wonderful

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum, as part of Serbian Medley #3 (The Dutam Medley). The dance is very similar to the dance Ti Momo.

Rex and Nancy Couture (St Louis Group – IFDA) recently taught this dance at Dit Oldshan's Wednesday Virtual Dance.

Valle e Dados

Albanian

Open Circle

4/4 meter

Translation: Dance of the Nanny

Valle e Dados means “Dance of the Nanny”. This version is from Korçë and was learned by Steve and Susan Kotansky from Bardhi Pojani. It is based on the Pogonishte and resembles a Greek Syrtos.

Chobankat

Albanian

Open Circle

2/4meter

Translation: The Shepherdess

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Lee Otterholt, who arranged these traditional Albanian dance steps into this choreography for this beautiful recording.

Dospatsko Horo

Bulgarian/Pomak

Open Circle

7/8 meter (SQQ)

Translation: Dance (horo) from Dospat

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Yves Moreau who learned it from Nasko Dimitrov. The dance is from the town of Dospat in Smoljan. It is traditionally danced by Pomak (Muslim) Bulgarians.

Trite Puti

**Bulgarian
Open Circle
2/4 meter**

Translation: Three times

Various forms of Trite Puti were introduced to the IFD community by Dennis Boxell, Dick Crum, Martin Koenig and others. This Trite Puti is from Eastern Thrace. This dance is sometimes confused with the Greek dance known as Trite Pati or Tris Fores.

Mori Sej

“Sacred Circle” Dance to a Hungarian Romany Song
Open or Closed Circle
2/4 meter

Translation: My daughter

In the IFD Community, **there are at least two** dances to the song “Mori Shej, Sabina”. Mori Shej is a Hungarian Romany (Gypsy) song performed by the group Kalyi Jag (Black Fire). For the record, **neither dance** is Romani or Hungarian in origin. The original dance done to this song comes from the **“Sacred Circle Dance Community”** (<http://www.sacredcircledance.org>). Patti Cohen (Winnipeg) introduced this dance to the IFD community at the Door County Folk Festival in 2004. From the DCFF, the dance spread to a number of groups around the Midwest and beyond. Jimmy Drury attended the DCFF in 2006 (in place of Nelda who had to cancel as an invited guest). Jimmy loved the music so much that he created his own dance arrangement to this song.

Narino

Turkish

Open Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: Narino is a girl's name

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Ahmet Luleci. It is a women's dance from the Black Sea coast of northern Anatolia in Turkey

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.

Veliko Kolo

Serbian/Banat

Open Circle

2/4 meter

Translation: Big/Great circle dance [kolo]

This dance was introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum, who learned it from Serbian immigrants (from the Banat region) to the US. He learned two versions, one from Zdravko Yezdimir and Milan Yosich and the other from people in Pittsburgh. John Filcich and Dick Oakes have also taught versions of this dance.

Last Dance Set

Sadi Moma

Bulgarian

Open Circle

7/8 meter (SQQ)

Translation: A girl planted a vine

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

Moj Maro, Moj Marine

Albanian

Open Circle

Fast 3/8 meter or slow 12/8 meter

Translation: Name of the song, not sure translation

This dance was arranged from traditional Albanian music and dance material and introduced to the IFD community by Steve Kotansky.

Sano Duso (Vranjanka)

a.k.a. Otvorи Mi Belo Lenče, Vranjanka, Šano Dušo
South Serbian/Vranje

Open Circle
7/8 meter (SQQ)

Translation: White Lenče (a girl's name)

The dance called “Vranjanka” was introduced to the IFD community by Dick Crum, Dennis Boxell and Bora Gajicki.

The dance may be known by the name of the song it is danced to, such as Šano Dušo. It is one of the most common dances done in around Vranje in South Serbia. The song “Belo Lenče” is an old Macedonian/Bulgarian song that is also very popular in Serbia.



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Fridays, 8:00pm-11:00pm CDT

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This will help us survive this period of social distancing when all of our events have been postponed.

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