

Kucano (Kutsano)

(Macedonia)

Originating in the Bitola region of western Macedonia, this dance has similar characteristics to Pusceno, Bufsko, and Berance (Aegean Macedonia). This is understandable because the places Buf and Lerin (the origin of the above dances) are only 16 miles from Bitola. The only difference between the two dances is that the pattern (dancing phrase) of Kucano is one measure longer.

The name comes from the choreological characteristics of the one part of the pattern looking like limping, in the Macedonian language “kuca” (kutsa). The squat and turn figures are reserved for the leader of the dance (male only). This enjoyable dance is very frequently performed at all kinds of occasions.

The dance is accompanied by Chalgija and modern instruments/orchestras with a large variety of melodies. The costume is that of the Pelagonija region. Kucano was introduced in 1962 by Jonce Hristovski, a professional dancer and singer with “Tanec.”

Pronunciation:

CD:

Rhythm: 12/16 counted 1 2 3 4 5 

Formation:

Meas

Pattern

FIGURE I

- 1 Facing diag R of ctr, double bounce (hop without leaving the ground) on L with R knee lifted and bent fwd (cts 1-2); step fwd on R (ct 3); step fwd on L across in front of R (ct 4); step fwd on R (ct 5).
- 2 Step fwd on L (ct 1); hop on L (ct 2); step fwd on R (ct 3); step fwd on L (ct 4); step on R to R while turning to face ctr (ct 5).
- 3 Double bounce fwd on R (cts 1-2); step on L next to R (ct 3); step on R in front of L (ct 4); step bkwd on L (ct 5).
- 4 Step bkwd on R (cts 1-2); step fwd on L (ct 3); step fwd on R (ct 4); step bkwd on L (ct 5).

FIGURE II

- 1-3 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-3.
- 4 Facing ctr, wt on L, touch ground with ball of R ft to R side (ct 1); move ball of R ft next to L (cts 2-3); step bkwd on R (ct 4); step fwd on L (ct 5).

Presented by Boris Ilievski—Kete