

DANKE

(Pirin, Bulgaria)

This version of *Danke* is from Petrich in South-Western Bulgaria. It is traditionally a men's dance in two parts: slow and fast. The rhythm/meter of the slow section is somewhat free (rubato), but has 5 dancer's beats and might be said to range from 11/8 (q-q-S-q-q) to 12/8 (q-q-S-q-S), to 13/8 (S-q-S-q-S) or (q-S-S-q-S). The fast section, though, does resolve into a 11/16 (q-q-S-q-q).

Recording: Workshop CD

Formation: Open circle with "W" hand hold

Music: 11/8 – 13/8 (Slow part) 11/16 (Fast part)

Dancer's Cts: 1-2-3-4-5 *Note: These dancer's cts are flexible, but ct 3 is definitely accented and long.

Meas:

Slow Part

- 1 Facing ctr, Bounce slightly on Lft leg while lifting and extending Rft fwd and to R (ct 1); turning to face slightly R of ctr, Step Rft fwd to R and lift Lft up in back and slightly out to L (ct 2); Bounce slightly on Rft and "swoop/swing" Lft fwd and across Rft (ct 3); Lift (Čukče) on Rft lift Lft up in front with knee bent (ct 4); extend and Step Lft fwd (ct 5);
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1 cts 1-4 turning to face ctr and holding Lft up and in front (ct 5);
- 3 Step Lft back and slightly to L (ct 1-2); Step Rft back and to L (ct 3); Step Lft back beside Rft (4-5);
- 4 Turning to face R of ctr, Leap slightly onto Rft to R (ct 1); Step Lft over Rft (ct 2); Turning to face ctr, touch ball of Rft to R side with R knee turned in (ct 3); Lift Rft up and behind Lft calf and straighten L leg (ct 4); Hold (ct 5).

Fast Part 11/16

- 1 Facing R of ctr and moving to R, Lift (Čukče) on Lft and raise R knee up (ct 1); Step Rft fwd to R and raise Lft out to L side (ct 2); Kick Lft fwd (can have slight "swoop" as above) (ct 3); Čukče on Rft (raise and lower R heel) as Lft extends fwd to R (ct 4); Step Lft fwd (ct 5);
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1 of Fast Part 11/16;
- 3 Turning to face ctr, Lift (Čukče) on Lft raise R knee up (ct 1); Step Rft beside Lft and bring L knee up and in front (ct 2); Hop on Rft in place with L knee lifted up and in front (ct 3); Hop again on Rft in place, L knee remains raised (ct 4); Hold (ct 5);
- 4 Hop on Rft and bring Lft around and behind Rft (ct 1); Step Lft behind Rft (ct 2); Hop on Lft in place and touch ball of Rft out to R side (ct 3); Hop on Lft in place and "cut-lift" Rft in front of L shin (ct 4); Hold (ct 5).

Presented by Stephen Kotansky