

Holubka –Голубка

(Western Ukraine)

Holubka is a popular paired dance from the Western part of the Ukraine. The dance is a traditional wedding dance. “Holubka” means “dove” in English. This version of the dance was choreographed by George and Irina Arabagi.

Pronunciation: hoh-LOOB-kah

Music: 4/4 Meter *Ukrainian & Moldavian Dance Workshop, Track 3*

Formation: Couples in a circle facing CCW. Hands are in a promenade type position with arms crossed. The M's R is under the W's L arm.

Steps and Styling: Skip/Run: (2 meas) Step R fwd (ct 1); hop on R (ct &); step L fwd (ct 2); step R fwd (ct 3); hop on R (ct &); step L fwd (ct 4); eight running steps fwd bending knees R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L (cts 1, &, 2, &, 3, &, 4, &).

Shoulder-Waist Position: The couple stands with their partner on the R side while facing each other. M's R hand is on W's L waist and his L hand is holding the back of W's R upper arm. W has R hand on M's L shoulder and her L hand supporting M's R elbow.

Meas 4/4 Meter Pattern

2 meas INTRODUCTION: No action

I SKIP/RUN IN CCW

1-8 Four Skip/Runs.

II CLAPPING/TURNING

1 M and W face each other in a circle with M's back to ctr. Step R sdwd, clapping hands with partner (ct 1); step L next to R, clapping own hands (ct 2); step R sdwd, clapping hands with partner (ct 3); step L next to R, clapping own hands twice (cts 4, &). Both make a quarter-turn CCW.

2-4 Repeat meas 1 three more times.

5-6 In Shoulder-Waist pos, do one Skip/Run making a full turn CW while looking at partner.

7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.

III SWITCHING PLACES

1 M and W face each other in a circle with man's back to ctr. With arms in V position, step R to R (ct 1); step L next to R (ct 2); step R to R, extending L ft on the floor (ct 3); raise and clap hands two times above right shoulder while looking at your partner.(ct &, 4).

2 Step L fwd toward your partner's position (ct 1), with ball of L foot, pivot CW, turning a half-turn, and step R to the R of L switching places with your partner (ct 2); step L next to R (ct 3); hold, clap hands two times in front (cts &, 4).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

5-8 M does two Skip/Runs in place with hands joined behind. W does two Skip/Runs going around M in CCW direction, with hands spread out to each side, palm facing backward, as wings of a dove.

Sequence: Fig I , Fig II, Fig III – total three times

Presented by George and Irina Arabagi