

Vallja E Gjilanit

(Rom Community, Skopje, Macedonia)

This crossing dance (*Krsteno*) also known as *Gilanka* was observed at a Rom wedding in “Sutka” Skopje in 1987.

Pronunciation: VAHL-yah EH GYEEL-ah-neet

Music: 6/8 meter *Balkan I 2010 Steve’s Dances CD, Band 7*
Counted as “1, and, uh, 2 and uh”

Formation: Open circle, arms in W-pos. Leader can change steps at will and others can choose to follow or not.

Meas 6/8 meter

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. PEMBE BASIC.

- 1 Facing R of ctr, lift on L (ct 1); step R fwd (ct 2).
- 2 Step L fwd (ct 1); step R fwd (ct 2).
- 3 Step L fwd (ct 1); step R fwd (ct 2).
- 4 Turning to face ctr, step L twd ctr (ct 1); step R back (ct 2).
- 5 Lift on R (ct 1); step L to L side (ct 2).
- 6 Step R across in front of L (ct 1); step L back to place (ct 2).
- 7-8 Reverse ftwk of meas 5-6.
- 9 Lift on R (ct 1); step L back (ct 2).
- 10 Turning to face R of ctr, step R diag back to R (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (ct 2).

Variation

- 1 Lift on L and raise R (ct 1); step R fwd (ct 2).
- 2 Lift on R and raise L and fwd (ct 1); step L fwd (ct 2); step quickly fwd on R ball beside L heel (ct uh or 6).
- 3 Step L fwd (ct 1); turning to face ctr, step R to R (ct 2).
- 4 Extend L low and fwd with straight knee (ct 1); draw L beside R inner-shin (ct 2).
- 5 Lift on R (ct 1); step L to L (ct 2).
- 6-7 Reverse ftwk of meas 4-5.
- 8 Repeat meas 4.
- 9-10 Repeat Basic Step, meas 9-10.

Note: You can replace meas 4 with: touch L in front of R (ct 1); touch L to L (ct 2). Also applies to repeats.

As music speeds up, arms come down into V-pos. Repeat Pembe Basic with vigor.

During meas 1-2, Steve added a kick R (ct 1); step R (ct &); step L (ct 2) in place of the two lift-steps.

Presented by Stephen Kotansky