

Gradišće Dances

(Austria, Hungary)



Burgenland Croats (Gradišćanski Hrvati) are a Croatian minority in the Austrian state of Burgenland, and on the borders of Hungary and Slovakia. Although this enclave is hundreds of kilometers away from their original homeland, they have managed to preserve their culture and language for about 500 years. According to estimates, there are approximately 50,000 Burgenland Croats. In former times this was part of Western Hungary and since 1921 Burgenland has been part of Austria. In all these years the music of the surrounding great nations has had a very strong influence on the music of the Croatian minority living there. We see in their dances and songs many czardas and Hungarian melodies and, in recent years, many waltzes and polkas have been added. Included are two dances featured below, “Četarski muži” and “Mila moja.” The research was done by Željko Jergan in 1982-84 and 1991-92.

Pronunciation: grah-DEESH-cheh DAN-sehz Translation: Dances from Burgenland

Music: 4/4 meter; 2/4 meter *Resonance of Croatia*, Track 26

Formation: A closed circle alternating M and W.

Steps & Styling: Double Czardas: Step R to R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); touch L next to R (ct 4). Can also be done with opp ftwk and direction.

Single Czardas: Step R to R (ct 1); touch L next to R (ct 2); step L to L (ct 3); touch R next to L (ct 4). Can be done with opp ftwk and direction.

Drmeš: Step R in place, pushing L ft fwd (ct 1); bounce on R with L toe touching floor (ct 2); with L ft beside R, bounce with wt on both feet (ct &). Can also be done with opp ftwk.

Buzz Step: Step fwd R on ball of ft (ct 1); step L fwd on full ft (ct 2). Can also be done with opp ftwk.

Walking Step: Hop on R (ct 1); step L to L (ct &); drag R to L (ct 2). Can also be done with opp ftwk.

Meas 4/4 meter

Pattern

4 meas INTRODUCTION No action

ČETARSKI MUŽI Gornji Četar/Felsőcsatár from Western Hungary

I. FIGURE I Melody A

1 Double Czardas to R (cts 1, 2, 3, 4).

2 Double Czardas to L (cts 1, 2, 3, 4).

3 Single Czardas to R and L (cts 1, 2, 3, 4).

4 Step R bkwd (ct 1); step bkwd (ct 2); step R fwd (ct 3); ~~step~~ L next to R (ct 4).

Stamp L next to R

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Gradišće Dances — continued

- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
- II. FIGURE II Melody B
- 1 Travel to R (CCW) with two *Buzz Steps*, starting R to R.
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Double Czardas to R (cts 1, 2, 3, 4).
- 4 Single Czardas to L and R (cts 1, 2, 3, 4).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.
- 2/4 meter MILA MOJA Rasporak/Draßburgh from Middle Burgenland, Austria
- I. FIGURE I Walking See notes above for "Walking Step"
- 1-4 Four heavy Walking Steps starting L and moving CCW ending: step R, touch L.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction except ending: step L, step R.
- 9 Facing CW, hop R (ct 1); step L fwd (ct &); step R fwd (ct 2).
- 10-15 Repeat meas 9 six times.
- 16 Step L (ct 1); ~~step R~~ next to L (ct 2).
- II. FIGURE II Drmeš Touch R next to L
- 1 Step R fwd (ct 1); hop R while touching L toe in front of R (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3-4 Repeat meas ~~1-4~~ 1-2
- 5 Drmeš starting R.
- 6 Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.
- 9-10 Double Czardas to R (cts 1, 2, 3, 4).
- 11-12 Double Czardas to L (cts 1, 2, 3, 4).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 5-8.
- 17-32 Repeat meas ~~1-6 with opp ftwk~~ 1-16



Sequence: ČETARSKI MUŽI twice as described above;
MILA MOJA Fig I, Fig II, Fig I, meas 1-16 only; Fig II; Fig I, meas 1-16 only.

Presented by Željko Jergan

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Lyrics for Četarski Muži

Vi četarski muži, vi četarski muži, zeti i ditići,
 Šenicu ukrali, šenicu ukrali, krčmaru prodali.
 Što su za nju zeli, 'se za vino dali,
 što su za nju zeli, 'se za vino dali, 'se za vino dali.

Men from the village of Četar stole wheat
 And sold it to the owner of the bar.
 All of the money they got for the wheat
 They immediately spent on drinking.

Lyrics for Mila Moja Vino Toči

Mila moja vino toči ona ima črne oči.
 Ej haj, mlada rožica, stokrat ću te ljubiti od srca.
 Oči su kot ternulice, a rumeno je nje lice.
 Tanka lica kot rožica, sve b` junake obljubila.
 I onoga gospodina, ki sam svoju gospu ima.

My love has black eyes and rosy cheeks.
 She loves all the boys – but I love her all the same.