



Kostursko Oro

John Filcich learned this dance from Sveta Kosta, who danced it as a girl in Greek Macedonia. Although the original dance title and melody are unknown, Mr. Filcich named the dance for the town of Kastoria, located on the shore of the lake by the same name in Greek Macedonia and literally translated means 'the dance from Kastoria.' After World War I, an estimated 1.25 million Turkish subjects of Greek extraction moved to Greece. Within a generation, most of the refugees, who had been townsmen, had been assimilated into their new homeland as farmers, although many drifted to the towns. Today, Greek Macedonia is farmed largely by refugee descendants, and business has been enlivened by the skills learned in the Middle East by these Greek immigrants from Turkey.

Dodek je moma pri majka,
do tu je bela i crvena.

While a girl lives with her mother,
she is fair and rosy.

Do tu je odila setala,
mominski pesni pejala.

She goes walking,
she sings girls' songs.

Mominski pesni pejala,
mominski ora igrala.

She sings girls' songs,
dances girls' dances.

Godi se, zacrnela se,
ozeni se, zakopa se.

She gets engaged, turns black (unhappy),
gets married, is buried.

A sto se svekor, svekrva?
Tova je crno crnilo.

And what are father-in-law, mother-in-law?
They are black ink (unhappiness).

A sto se dever i zolva?
Tova je zolto zoltilo.

And what are brother-in-law and sister-in-law?
They are yellow dye (sickness).

A sto se malkite deca?
Tova se sitni sind ziri.

And what are the little children?
They are little chains.

A sto je kitka sarena?
Tova je prvoto libe.

And what is the many-colored bouquet?
It is her true love (husband).