

CHEKANNYA (THE WAITING)

Chor. Paul Boizot, 2011. Music "Chekannya", from Vorony by The Ukrainians. Also on "The Best Of The Ukrainians". There is a live version too but I have not tried the dance to it. Mp3 available from Amazon mp3* and iTunes. The song is a reworking of Venus In Furs, by The Velvet Underground, which took its title from a controversial book written in Ukraine. The album notes say "we have transformed the mood of the song, and the lyric, to express optimism and hope for the future".

Formation; circle or open circle. Rhythm 4/4. Dance crosses music – start after two bars just before the singing (which comes in after the first beat of bar 3) or at the beginning of any other musical phrase.

Arms V \curvearrowright sR, Lxb, sR s (left foot prepares for next step by curving in); \curvearrowright L s (can flex left knee a little), \downarrow R, L; \curvearrowright sway R s, \curvearrowleft sway L s.

Translation of lyrics – from the CD booklet

The Waiting

And so the misty night arrives
Mournfully, calmly upon the water
One can hardly hear the voice of a bird
And no ships can be seen

But somewhere flows a peaceful flowing river
Where a green grove murmurs
Nature flourishes there, now
Wait until sunrise.

I will take you to Verkhovyno
Where we will find a most beautiful land
We will gaze upon the high plains.
Upon an enchanting, boundless, paradise

Beyond the hills the sun lays down
And outdoors it is abruptly cold.
How concerning are those despondent thoughts
As the precious ones diminish.

But for now feel not saddened
For the season of warmth is still with us
At dawn the weather will change
And the dew will disappear.

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