

# Repertoire

## Welcoming Dance

*Choreography:* Adaptation from Anatoly Kryvokhyzha by Zoia Hraur Korsun  
*Music:* Victor Guzeyev

A line dance in which the artists, true to ancient tradition, welcome the audience with bread and salt symbolizing friendship.

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## Welcoming Dance (1990)\*

*Choreography:* Alexander Hraur  
*Music:* Roman Cahute

A traditional opening dance which presents various regions of Ukraine and, true to ancient custom, welcomes the audience with symbols of friendship - bread and salt.

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## Povzunets

*Choreography:* Pavel Virsky  
*Music:* Eugene Zwodesky

A humorous Cossack dance requiring strength and endurance, since one of the rules of the game is to remain in a squatting position. Abandoning the squatting position means elimination from the dance.

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## The Puppets

*Choreography:* Pavel Virsky  
*Music:* Roman Cahute

A variation on the theme "All's fair in love and war," the dance is performed in the puppet tradition prevalent throughout the Ukraine centuries ago. A landowner's son attempts to get rid of his rival for a married woman's affections by delivering an order sending him off to war. The woman spurns his advances, her cossack husband returns, and together they give him the boot.

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## Lemko Medley

*Choreography:* Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky  
*Music:* Roman Cahute

A quick tempo, vivacious dance of the mountainous Lemko region.

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## Viterets

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin

In Viterets or "The Wind", the free spirited dancers soar like a refreshing breeze, picking up the tempo and elevating to the clouds with each measure of music.

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## Zhniva

*Choreography:* Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky  
*Music:* Konstantin Miaskov

A lyrical harvest dance where the women work from dawn to dusk reaping the wheat.



# Repertoire

(continued)

## **Arkan**

*Choreography:* Markian Komichak

An ancient ritualistic dance performed by men from the mountainous Hutsul region of Western Ukraine. Arkan is the only known authentic Ukrainian folk dance warning of danger.

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## **Kolomyjky**

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin

*Music:* Eugene Zwodesky

An energetic dance from the Hutsul region displaying dancers whirling through myriad formations.

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## **Bukovinian Tropotianka**

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin

*Music:* Roman Cahut

This dance comes from Bukovina, located in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains, and expresses the lively, boisterous nature of the Bukovinian people.

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## **Boykivsky Zabavy**

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin

*Music:* Roman Cahute

An evening of social dancing depicting the proud, earthy nature of the people from the Boyko region, with syncopated, precise movements.

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## **Eve of Ivana Kupala\*\*\***

*Choreography:* Myroslav Vantuch

*Music:* H. Zavhorodny

Based on the ancient traditions of the Ivan Kupala Festival, this dance depicts the celebration marking the end of summer solstice and the beginning of the harvest. On the eve of the festival, unmarried young men and women would gather outside the village near a stream. It was believed that garlands of freshly cut flowers which the women sent flowing on the water would determine their destiny. The dance culminates with the men surprising the women with the presentation of embroidered towels symbolizing the proposal of marriage.

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## **Resheto\***

*Choreography:* Sophia Janusz

*Music:* Roman Cahute

A lyrical harvest dance from the transcarpathian region. The dancers' circular formations represent the rhythmic sifting of seeds in a sieve.

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## **Broken Promises\***

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin

*Music:* Roman Cahute

A humorous dance from the Kuban region of Ukraine. The amorous advances by the young cossacks are met by teasing and broken promises.

# Repertoire (continued)

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## **From Kiev to Luben\***

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin  
*Music:* Roman Cahute

Two fathers-in-law continue their rejoicing on the journey home to Luben from a lively wedding in Kiev.

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## **Kokhanochka\***

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin  
*Music:* Roman Cahute

A romantic courtship dance interweaving mesmerizing and enchanting formal patterns.

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## **Lopnuv Obrucz\***

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin  
*Music:* Victor Guzeyev and Dmitro Tkachenko

This Kievan Hopak means, literally, "the barrel breaks." Once it breaks it spills out all the fun!

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## **Bukovinian Lark**

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin  
*Music:* Victor Guzeyev, Dmitro Tkachenko

A lyrical round dance characterizing the ebullient color and high speed of the Bukovinian Lark, which includes a series of boisterous individual and group dances.

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## **Moldavian Suite**

*Choreography:* Andrei Pap  
*Music:* Roman Cahute

A dance of innocent youth beginning with a lyrical girls dance and ending with a grand finale of astounding speed.

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## **Tsifrovaniy\*\***

*Choreography:* Evgeny Tsiganok  
*Music:* Victor Guzeyev and Dmitro Tkachenko

A transcarpathian dance - "Tsifrovaniy", literally meaning numerical, celebrates the union of men and women as couples evolving from groups of lifelong friends.

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## **The Gossips\*\***

*Choreography:* Leonid Jacobson, restaged by Vassillii Mountian  
*Music:* Vladimir & Nikolai Radu

A spider web of relationships are revealed through the swirling interactions of five gossiping women.

## Repertoire (continued)

### **The Anvil\*\***

*Choreography:* The Brothers Ily, restaged by Vassilii Mountian

*Music:* Traditional Gypsy Melodies

A traditional gypsy dance portraying the daily life and rituals of the Ukrainian gypsy. The dance begins with the gypsy checking his mirror to make sure he still exists.

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### **In the Grape Arbor\*\***

*Choreography:* Vassilii Mountian

*Music:* Andrij Milavsky

A Bukovinian courtship dance which takes place in the vineyard.

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### **Hopak\***

*Choreography:* Mykola Zhukovin

*Music:* Victor Guzeyev and Dmitro Tkachenko

Voloshky's version of the most exciting of folk dances is a dramatic, tour de force finale piece. With the entire ensemble participating, it features lavish ethnic costumes and solos for the men and the women, with the men performing athletic feats. The dramatic, stirring music drives the high-energy dancing to a spectacular climax.

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*“As a recent and occasional visitor to your town, I was fortunate enough to attend the recent performance of Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble... I can hardly imagine a better way to spend a late winter’s afternoon.”*

*-- D.E.Waterbury in letter to the editor, Pocono Record, 3-18-05*