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FOLK DANCES FROM THE ISLAND OF ZLARIN

Summary

There are three traditional dances in Zlarin: *Igraj kolo su dvadesetidva* (Dance the Reel of Two-and-Twenty), *Čuvaj se Ančice zagrebačkih đaka* (Beware of the Zagreb Students, Annie), and *Po našu* (Reel Dancing Local Style). This last dance has recently been given the name *Tvrdo kolo* (Hard Reel). The first two dances are relatively recent, but their origins, time of appearance and links with other folk dances could not be established. *Igraj kolo* is a widespread form of dance throughout Croatia, particularly as a wedding dance.

The oldest dance in Zlarin is *Po našu*. According to its stylistic and rhythmic characteristics, it belongs to the Dinaric dances. Like other Dinaric dances, it is performed without instrumental accompaniment. Finally, the social functions of the dance are also like those in the rest of the Dinaric region. Its presence in Zlarin is a proof of the penetration of six-part dancing to the Adriatic coast, particularly the Zadar region and Sibenik islands.

Certain rhythmic similarities with dances from parts of Šumadija in Serbia, from which the Herzegovinians originally came, are quite obvious, while some stylistic and musical links with dances from Macedonia remain inexplicable for the time being.

(Translated by V. Ivir)