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# Bulgarian Folklore

...a Song...a Dance and Bags of Boys' Enthusiasm



There is one thing all Bulgarians, regardless of social, educational or cultural status are proud of- Bulgarian folklore. That is the one and only sound which brings Bulgarians closer to their roots and calms their souls every time when they are away from Bulgaria. The traditional Bulgarian ring dance (horo) is something everybody joins willingly and with enthusiasm. The 3/4th , unequal rhythm of Bulgarian folklore songs make the legs jump by themselves no matter what kind of music you prefer in everyday life. That is where the magic of the Balkan soul is hidden and Bulgarian people of all ages, together with many foreigners are truly fascinated by the folklore.

But all this is even more impressive presented by the boys of Folk show 'Ivan Ivanov'.

They are between 9 and 11 years old and have started dancing when they were five-year-old children. The choreographer himself says it is a great joy to work with very small children but the only problem is that they do not recognize left from right foot. He has created his own strategy for that- he takes one of their shoes off and starts showing them where does the shoe foot and the bare foot go. With his 23 years of experience in folklore dance and over 4 500 students, Mr. Ivan Ivanov has found the ultimate form of presenting traditional Bulgarian dances. His dancers are little only by age as their talent and artistic performance is a once in a lifetime experience. I can as-

sure you that you will simply just not believe your eyes when you see the passion of their dances, the quick and accurate moves of their small legs, the always smiling faces, and the readiness to give themselves away to their audience. You can feel their endless energy being transferred into you as it sparkles out of every move, every step and cry.

For their young age these fascinating children have reached the perfection of professional dancers and are regularly performing both in Bulgaria and abroad. They have visited over 20 countries all over the world and have always been accepted with joy and admiration.

Their teacher does not only show them dances but also teaches them discipline, love of folklore and tradition, live and dance. Many of his former students now have their own folklore-dancing troops and are passing the knowledge they have gathered. All of the little dancers in Folk Show Ivan Ivanov want to become choreographers and pass the tradition to others so the Bulgarian dance is saved for the future generations.

These unique children can become the flavor ingredient of every happening- birthday party, wedding, cocktail or business diner.

They will give you a different and wonderfully presented understanding of the mysterious Bulgarian soul.