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*Photo by Jal Schrof*

**Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble**  
**is a non-profit organization**

**VELA LUKA CROATIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE**  
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Program Cover: *Photo by Suzanne Fiore*

# VELA LUKA

CROATIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE  
RUŽE DALMATINKE & BONACA



**SPRING FEŠTA**  
**APRIL 5, 2014**

**CROATIAN CULTURAL CENTER**  
**801 - 5TH ST.**  
**ANACORTES, WASHINGTON**

## PROGRAM

- 5:30 Hors d'oeuvres - Bar  
6:00 Greeting and Introductions – *Maria Petrish*  
Dinner Blessing  
7:00 Program and Performance –  
*Alma Plancich, Master of Ceremonies*  
*Ruže Dalmatinke with BONACA*  
& *Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble*  
8:00 Participatory Dancing with music by *BONACA* - Raffle

### VELA LUKA CROATIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE

**PLESOVI S OTOKA KORČULE—DANCES FROM THE ISLAND OF KORČULA**  
Vela Luka's signature suite of courtship dances originates from the towns of Vela Luka, Blato and neighboring villages on the island of Korčula. Italian and Spanish characteristics combine with native Slavic culture in this suite of dances from the island of Korčula. *Tanac*, from the town of Vela Luka, was the first dance studied and performed by the immigrants and descendants of Vela Luka residing in Anacortes, taught by Marija Šebetić in 1975. This traditional *Tanac* was performed for many years, along with several other customary dances of Vela Luka. Since 1986, the Vela Luka ensemble has been performing a suite of dances from the island of Korčula, taught by Željko Jergan, adapted from an original *Korčula Suite* choreography by Milan Oreb. Today's tailored choreography includes the song *Nasrid luke* from the original 1975 version, the 1986 *Korčula Suite* and concludes with our own personal touches from Vela Luka.

**YOUTH PERFORMANCE—PRIGORSKI PLESOVI—DANCES FROM PRIGORJE**  
In the villages located in the foothills North of Zagreb - *Zagrebačko Prigorje* - the traditional dances - *drmeš* and *polka* - are treasured. The colorful costumes from this region have become a cultural symbol of Zagreb and Croatian national symbol in the world. The Vela Luka youth will dance to the songs: *Igrajte nam muzikaši* (Play for us musicians!), *Sukačko kolo* or *Sukačica* (Wedding cook) and *Kriči kriči tiček* (Whistle for us little bird!). A *sukačica* is a woman who prepares the special soups, roast meats, and cakes for the wedding feast held at the bride's home after the church ceremony. The guests often sang a humorous song "*Sukačice, domarice...*" in honor of the *sukačice* and sometimes the song was accompanied by spontaneous dancing, during which the guests danced their local *drmeš* (shaking dance) in couples or in circles of three or four dancers.  
Choreography: Maria Plancich Kesovija

### POSKOČICA - LINĐO

A dance of dizzying speed and exceptional virtuosity, performed in all areas of the historic city state Dubrovnik on the Dalmatian Coast. Vela Luka's *Lindō* is from the village of Doli just above and east of the Peninsula of Pelješac. This dance features the *lijerica*, an ancient bowed, stringed instrument, and the *kolovođa*, the caller, who commands the dance's steps and figures. *Ženske pjesme* opens the dance with the girls singing to the villagers and calling the musician to begin the dance.  
Lijeričar: Nicholas Petrish      Kolovođa: Michael Petrish  
Choreography: Nicholas Petrish III & Maria Plancich Kesovija

## VELA LUKA CROATIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE

**Executive Director:** Maria Franulović Petrish  
**Artistic Director:** Maria Plancich Kesovija

The **Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble, Ruže Dalmatinke & Bonaca Orchestra** perform music and dance of Croatia. Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble was founded in 1975 in Anacortes, WA, located on Fidalgo Island. One-quarter of the residents of this unique community are descended from immigrants from another fishing village: Vela Luka, on the Island of Korčula, Croatia. The performers in Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble represent four generations of Croatian Americans who have introduced their culture's extraordinary choreography, music, and instruments to people all over the world. Forming a cross-cultural link between the Puget Sound region and Croatia, the company strives to preserve Croatian folkways and culture for generations to come.

### RUŽE DALMATINKE

Alma Franulović Plancich, Binki Franulović Spahi & Maria Plancich Kesovija

### MUSICIANS

James Hoath, Pasko Kesovija, David Jackson\*, Tom Jovanovich,  
Steven Mataya, Allan Swensson, Matthew Thompson, Matthew Olich Tweten\*

BONACA, "calm seas", formed in 2010, performs music of Croatia, the Balkans and beyond. \*Vela Luka musicians join with BONACA for tonight's Fešta!

### VELA LUKA "Spring Fešta" DANCERS

Marija Damjanović Anderson	William Jones	Michael Petrish *
Margo Cochran Čorak	Maria Plancich Kesovija	Nicholas Petrish III
Duane Colbert Gregorich	John Lovrić *	Melody Piper Tarabochia
Chloe Davenport	Bret Newbaker Pirak	
Anamaria Dulama	Julie O'Brien Ruljancich	* Dance Master
Kathryn Hightower	Ante Petrish	Family name in italics
Kaliman & Dražić		

### VELA LUKA "Spring Fešta" YOUTH

Lilly Cameron Pirak	Grace Evanson Martinis	Mila Mišić
Carli Evanson Martinis	Marija Mila Kesovija	Katarina Petrish