

MAKEDONIKOS HOROS

Greek Macedonian

PRONUNCIATION: mah-keh-DOHN-ee-kos hoh-ROHS

TRANSLATION: Macedonian dance

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Dennis Boxell who taught it at the 1979 Holiday Camp. Ted Sofios taught a variant at the 1979 and 1981 San Diego State University Folk Dance Conferences.

BACKGROUND: Makedonikos Horos comes from the Florina area of Greek Macedonia, a wide arc of territory from the Pindus Mountains to the Aegean Sea which was formally united with Greece in 1913. The landscape is rough with many mountains separated by small valleys. Florina is one of the coldest towns in Greek Macedonia, because of its elevation and geographic position. Heavy snowfalls, thick fog, and below-freezing temperatures are common during the winter months, while the summers are mild. Furthermore, the town and the surrounding valley is usually covered in thick fog during the winter months that may last even for weeks under specific conditions.

MUSIC: Songs of Macedonia (45rpm) SOM-11
Kleftes (45rpm) KL-101
Festival (45rpm) 11-B

FORMATION: Open cir or lines of mixed M and W with joined hands held at shldr height in "W" position.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: With the large drum setting the rhythm, both the dance and music appear heavier in quality than those of other areas of Greece.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

2 INTRODUCTION - a slow warm-up consisting of the sounds of the bagpipe ("gaida") and the big drum ("ouli" or "daouli").

I. WALKING -- Slow Tempo

1 Facing slightly diag L, step R diag bwd to R (ct 1); step L diag bwd to R (ct 2).
2 Turning to face ctr, small step R swd (ct 1); step L next to R (ct &); small step R swd (ct 2).
3 Turning to face slightly diag R, small step L fwd (ct 1); step R next to L (ct &); small step fwd L (ct 2).

II. ROLLING -- Medium Tempo

- 1-3 Repeat action of Fig I with somewhat more bending of knees on cts 1 and 2 of each meas.

III. SKIPPING -- Fast Tempo

- 1 Facing slightly diag L, step R bwd diag to R (ct 1); skip R bwd diag to R (ct &);
step L bwd diag to R (ct 2); skip L swd to R (ct &).
- 2 Turning to face ctr, step R swd (ct 1); step left next to R (ct &); step R swd (ct 2);
skip R fwd diag to R (ct &).
- 3 Facing slightly diag R, step L fwd diag to R (ct 1); step R next to L (ct &); step L
diag fwd to R (ct 2); skip L bwd diag to R (ct &).