

## Ayelet Ahavim (Israel)

Ayelet Ahavim (ah-YEL-let ah-hah-VEEM) is a couple dance; the title means "The Beloved Maiden." It was presented by Ya'akov Eden at the 1979 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp. The music was composed by Khagidakis, the choreography by Eliyahu Gamliel.

RECORD: Blue Star 79, Side B/B1, label is reversed. 4/4 meter

FORMATION: Cpls in a circle, face to face, M inside with back to ctr of hall. M arms held apart, curved and extended with hands about head level. W hands are held together behind her back.

STEPS: Walk\*

and Lunge: Lean to direction indicated as if leaning against a wall.

STYLING: Fig I and II are done smoothly. Fig III has a definite "up and down" quality. Generally steps are up on the outside ft and down on the inside ft. Steps are described for the M unless otherwise noted. W uses opp ftwk and direction.

\*Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

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MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

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Measures

1-8 INTRODUCTION No action.

I. TO SIDE AND BACK

A 1 Facing R, step fwd; hold; step L; cross hands at wrist and snap fingers. (W facing R, step back on L; hold; step back on R; hold.)

2 Step on R in place; turning L to face LOD, step L fwd; step R; step L in place.

3 Repeat meas 1.

4 Step on R in place; turn once CCW in place L,R,L (cts 2-4).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

II. CENTER AND BACK

B 1-2 Join MR (palm up) and WL (palm down) hands at waist level with forearms parallel to floor. Step bkwd R,L,R; lift on R toe and lift L knee slightly (ct 4). Repeat beg L.

3 Step to R on R; step L in front of R; lunge (small) to R on R; hold.

4 Moving L, turn once CCW L,R,L; hold.

5-8 Join both hands at waist level with forearms parallel to floor (M palms up, W palms down). Repeat meas 1-4 but move away from ctr.

A 1-8 Repeat Fig I.

B 1-8 Repeat Fig II.

III. TO SIDE, REVERSE AND TURN

C 1 Join both hands and hold out to sides. Step on R toe to R; step on L ft with bent knee in front of R; repeat ct 1-2.

- 2 Step on R toe to R; step on L ft with deep knee bend across R, bend body slightly fwd and bring hands together; step on R in place; step on L to L side, straighten body and open arms to sides.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 5 Step on R with bent knee in front of L; step on L to L; repeat ct 1-2.
- 6 Step on R in front of L, bending both knees; swing L leg about 12 inches off floor around and in front of R to face RLOD with ML and WR shldr adjacent, inside hands joined and held down, outside hands joined and held fwd and over heads (ct 2); step fwd L,R (cts 3-4).
- 7 Step fwd (RLOD) on L; swing R leg fwd and rise on L toe (ct 2).

M steps

W steps

- Step bkwd on R ft (ct 3); go down on R knee (ct 4).
- Step bkwd on L with bent knee (ct 3); step fwd on R ft (ct 4).
- 8 Stay on R knee and watch ptr. Beg L, circle 1/2 CW around ptr with 4 steps to end inside circle. Do not drop hands.
- 9-16 M rise. Repeat meas 1-8 but M is now on outside of the circle and W inside. Move LOD rather than RLOD.
- Repeat dance from beg.

