Misirlou, meaning "beloved," is based on the Kritikos Syrtos from Crete. It was introduced to Southern California in the early 1950's by Anne Pittman, who learned it at the Oglebay Folk Dance Camp in Wheeling, West Virginia.

MUSIC Record: "Misirlou": Columbia 10072, Standard 131, Victor 25-5047, Victor 26-8019, Slavtone 2, Kismit 142 A
Meter may vary with recording - 2/4, 4/4 or 7/8.

FORMATION: Dancers in a broken circle with leader at R end. All join hands at shoulder height, hands near shoulders.

STEPS AND STYLING:
Walk*, Grapevine* (Cue: S = slow, Q = quick)
The dance is characterized by a graceful and flowing movement with easy turning of the hips. When knee is lifted, keep inner side of foot near supporting leg. The leader at the R end may lead the dancers in any direction, serpentining.

*Described in volumes of "Folk Dances From Near and Far", published by Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 150 Powell Street, San Francisco 2, California.

Measures

INTRODUCTION

Measures of Introduction vary with the recordings.
Dancers wait in place.

POINT, GRAPEVINE AND WALK

1. Moving L.O.D., step swd R (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

2. Point L toe in front of R (ct 1) and describe an arc with L., in preparation for next step (ct 2).

3. Step L behind R (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2).

4. Step L in front of R (ct 1) and pivot 1/4 turn on L to face R.O.D. (CW), raising R knee (ct 2). The hips turn easily with each step.

5-6. Take three steps fwd in R.O.D., R L R (cts 1, 2, 1 2). On last step rise on R toe, lifting L knee.

7-8. Still facing R.O.D., take three steps bwd in L.O.D., L R L (cts 1, 2, 1 2), pivoting 1/4 turn to face ctr on last step.
Repeat dance from the beginning.