

Syrtós Kitrínou

(Greek)

Syrtós Kitrínou (seer-TOH kee-TREE-noo) was choreographed by Maurits van Geel in 2008. "Kitrínou" translates as "Geel" in Dutch, or "yellow" in English. While the choreographer prefers the Dutch pronunciation as shown, it should be noted that the correct pronunciation in Greek is "seer-TOS KEE-tree-noo." The music is a Greek Gypsy folk song, "Nas balamo," that is intended for listening, not dancing, and is not in Syrtós rhythm. The song version used for the choreography is sung by Eleni Vitali. This dance was presented by Roberto Bagnoli at the 2011 Stockton Folk Dance Camp at the University of the Pacific.

Music: 4/4 meter CD: *Ethnic Festival 2011 CD, Track 6*

Video: 2011 Stockton Folk Dance Camp DVD. Camp videos can be viewed in the library at University of the Pacific, or by contacting a camp participant who purchased it. The dance is not on YouTube, but the song is; Eleni's version is at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3Fply9xJ-w>.

Formation: Mixed open circle, facing center, hands joined in W-pos.

Steps and Styling: Softly bouncing throughout the dance. Steps are low to the ground.

Measures	4/4 meter	PATTERN
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INTRODUCTION: 4 meas; no action.

- I. TRAVEL; TOUCH & SWING R; REEL BACK TWICE; TRAVEL
- 1 Bounce on L, lifting R from the floor at the end (ct &); with a gliding motion, step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); step L across in front of R (ct 4).
- 2 Touch R fwd (ct 1); hold (ct 2); swing straight R leg slightly to R (ct &); swing straight R leg to L above the floor in front of L (ct 3); swing straight R leg to R (ct 4).
- 3 Bounce on L (ct 1); swing R a little further to the side and behind L, and step R behind L (ct 2); repeat meas 3 cts 1-2 with opp ftwk (cts 3-4).
- 4 Bounce on L, lifting R to R (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); step L in front of R (ct 3); step R to R (ct &); step L across in front of R (ct 4).
- II. TRAVEL; TOUCH & SWING R; REEL BACK ONCE; TOUCH & SWING L; TRAVEL
- 1-2 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-2.
- 3 Bounce on L (ct 1); swing R a little further to the side and behind L, and step R behind L (ct 2); touch L fwd (ct 3); hold (ct 4).



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- 4 Swing straight R leg slightly to R (ct &); swing straight R leg to L above the floor in front of L (ct 1); swing straight R leg to R (ct 2); step L across in front of R (ct 3); step R to R (ct &); step L across in front of R (ct 4).

L TURN VARIATION IN MEAS 2

- 2 With straight leg, step R across L, turning CCW (ct 1); step L in place, continuing to turn (ct 2); step fwd on R to ctr, bending R knee and bending body fwd (ct 3); step bkwd on L, straightening (ct 4).

Sequence: Fig I and II as many times as the leader decides; the turn variation, done in Fig I or II, as the leader calls. Although Roberto did not teach it at Stockton, a traveling turn to the R can be done in meas 4 of Fig I, as per a video of a Dutch class performing it at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xoWLhP2293I>: Bounce on L, lifting R to R (ct 1); step R-L-R, turning CW (cts 2, 3, &); step L across in front of R (ct 4).

Lyrics:

Den eho topo, den eho elpida
de tha me hasi, kamia patrida
ke me ta heria mou ke tin kardia mou
ftiahno tsantiria sta onira mou

I don't have a place; I don't have a hope
no homeland will ever lose me
and with my hands and my heart
I build tents in my dreams

Ke ta ganikia mas otan chorevoun
ne chastaromata pou se magevoun
kounoun somata kai ta pite tous
mesa se klinoun stis agalies tous

And when our women dance
with perfumes and colours that put a spell on you
they move their bodies and their jewels
they put their arms around you

Chorus:

Nas balamo, nas balamo
kai to lounno to afentiko
nahia kalamportzis balamo

Go away, outsider (non-gypsy); leave, outsider
for the mean boss
does not accept the outsider

Note re the lyrics: While the song is in Greek, the chorus is in a Gypsy dialect. The non-chorus words were found at http://www.musicolog.com/forum_cevap.asp?ID=1184 (see second entry under "Replies") and at the YouTube video referenced above under "Video." The spelling differs from what was provided by Roberto Bagnoli in his notes for Stockton camp. For the third line of the chorus, which differs from the usual version of the song, the second word corresponding to what Eleni sings was found in a Greek comment on the YouTube video at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3Fply9xJ-w&feature=results_video&playnext=1&list=PL4B35033D9BB690D3. The chorus and its translation should not be taken as definitive.

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