Zemer Nugeh - זמר נוגה
(Israel)

Zemer Nugeh (ZEH-mehr Noo-GEH) means A Sad Melody. It is considered an "old" dance in the Israeli folk dance repertoire. It was choreographed by Yankele Levy in 1977 to music written by Shmulik Kraus around 1968. It is based on a poem written by Rachel Blaustein around 1931. The music and the dance became very popular in Israel in 2003 when it was associated with the first Israeli astronaut, Ilan Ramon, who died when the Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart as it returned to earth. Since this is an "old" dance, the folklore process has evolved some variations in different communities. This is how the dance was presented by Erica Goldman at the 2014 Heritage Festival in San Carlos, California.

Music:	4/4 meter *Erica Goldman – Israeli Dances*, Track #15
Video:	www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEHljHRzchc
Formation:	The dance begins in a circle with hands joined in V pos.
Steps and Styling:	Walking steps, swaying, double cherkassiya step.

Measure	4/4 meter	PATTERN

4 Meas   INTRODUCTION No action. Start with the vocal. Note: The choreographer introduced the dance by starting on the syllable "ma" of HatishMA (meas 5, ct 3). Some dance communities still dance it this way.

I. SWAY, GRAPEVINE TO RIGHT

1   Facing ctr, sway L (ct 1), sway R (ct 2), cross L in front of R (ct 3) step sdwd R (ct 4).
2   Step L behind R (ct 1), step sdwd R (ct 2), step fwd L, bringing hands fwd and up to about shoulder ht (ct 3), step bkwd R, bring hands back down to V pos (ct 4).
3-8   Repeat meas 1-2 three more times.

II. SWAY, TURN, WALK, DOUBLE CHERKASSIYA

1   Sway L and release hands (ct 1), beg on R, 3-step turn CW to R, end facing RLOD (cts 2-4).
2   Walk in RLOD: step L (ct 1), step R (ct 2), step L (ct 3), step R facing ctr (ct 4).
3   Begin double cherkassiya step: step sdwd on L (ct 1), cross R in front of L (ct 2), step bkwd in place on L (ct 3), step sdwd on R (ct 4)
4   Finish double cherkassiya step: cross L in front of R (ct 1), step bkwd in place on R (ct 2). Begin repeat: sway L (ct 3), step R in LOD (ct 4).

5   Continue 3-step turn: step L turning out (ct 1), step R bkwd to face RLOD (ct 2). Step L fwd in RLOD (ct 3), step R fwd (ct 4).

6   Step L fwd (ct 1), step R facing ctr (ct 2). Begin double cherkassiya step: step sdwd on L (ct 3), cross R in front of L (ct 4).

7   Finish double cherkassiya step: step bkwd in place on L (ct 1), step sdwd on R (ct 2), cross L in front of R (ct 3), step bkwd in place on R (ct 4).

8   Sway L (ct 1), sway R (ct 2), sway L (ct 3), sway R (ct 4).

Repeat dance from the beginning. In the listed recording the dance repeats twice, then repeats Part I, ending on meas 4, ct 3.

Zemer Nugeh **Hatishma Koli**	**A Sad Melody** **Will You Hear My Voice?**
Hatishma koli rechoki sheli Hatishma koli ba'asher hincha Kol kore be'oz, kol bocheh bid'mi Ume'al hazman metzaveh brachah.	Will you hear my voice, my far-away one? Will you hear my voice, wherever you are? A voice calling with strength, crying in my blood. Over time it sends a blessing.
Eretz zo rabah udrachim bah rav Nifgashot ledak nifradot la'ad. Mevakesh adam, ach koshlot raglav, Lo yuchal limtzo et asher avad.	A land so big, and it has many roads. We meet for a moment, separate forever. A man asks, but his legs fail, He can never find that which he has lost.
Acharon yamai mah karov ulai Mah karov hayom shel dim'ot preidah. Achakeh lecha ad yichbu chayay, Kechakot Rachel (x3), ledodah.	The last of my days is so close perhaps So near is the day of goodbye tears. I will wait for you until my life will end, Like Rachel waits (x3) for her lover.
Hatishma koli, rechoki sheli…	Will you hear my voice, my far-away one…

Remember that the "ch" in Hebrew is pronounced like a hard "H" as if you were clearing your throat. For example, "ba'asher hincha" is pronounced "bah asher heen HA."

These are the words to the complete poem. The recording on Erica's CD repeats the first verse, followed by the third verse.