

BALLOS FROM KASSOS

(GREECE)

*Note: For easy reading, open staples,
remove description, close staples.*

This couple dance was presented at the 1963 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp by Oliver (Sonny) Newman. Mr. Newman learned the steps and styling from a demonstration group at the 1961 Folk Dance Festival in Athens, Greece, and arranged the steps to fit the listed recording.

MUSIC: Record: Folkraft 1463

FORMATION: Any number of cpls in an open line facing ctr, W to L of ptr. All hands joined at shoulder level, elbows bent. Leader's R hand extended in LOD at shoulder level, elbow bent.

STEPS AND Hop, Grapevine, Run, Rock.

STYLING: While the rhythm of each meas is always slow (cts 1, &), quick (ct 2), quick (ct &), the style is very bouncy (as in a Kalamatiano) and unlike the usual smooth Ballos, and moves very swiftly. Each first ct of a measure is preceded by an upbeat hop on the supporting ft, such as is frequently seen at the end of the first meas of a Syrto. During the Rocking Step and the Promenade, however, the hop is Omitted. A kerchief, carried by both M and W, is used playfully and flirtatiously throughout the dance. Hands are held at shoulder level unless otherwise specified.

MUSIC 2/4PATTERN

Measures

&, 2, &

1 - 12

INTRODUCTION - No action. Dance begins with vocal.

I. KALAMATIANO WITH TURN

- A 1 Step R to R (ct 1); cross L behind R (ct 2); step R to R (ct &).
2 Cross L in front of R (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); cross L in front of R (ct &).
3 Step R to R (ct 1); cross L in front of R, lifting R but letting it hover over its pos (ct 2); rock back on R (ct &). (cts 2, & are done in place - no fwd movement.)
4 Step L to L, beginning a CCW turn (ct 1); release hands, cross R over L continuing CCW turn (ct 2); step L completing CCW turn (ct &).
5-8 Rejoining hands during meas 5, repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig I).
9-11 Repeat action of meas 1-3 (Fig I).
12 Release hands, M turn 1/2 L (CCW) to end facing ptr, back to ctr, by stepping L (ct 1); step R, making 1/2 turn (ct 2); step L beside R (ct &).
W repeat action of meas 4 (Fig I), exactly.

NOTE: During the CCW turn the body should incline to the R and the movement of the dance is always in LOD.

II. BALANCE AND CROSS OVER

- B 1 Facing ptr, step R to R (ct 1); cross L over R, lifting R but letting it hover over its pos (ct 2); rock back on R (ct &).
2 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 4, (CCW turn).
3 Step R fwd twd ptr (ct 1); step L fwd twd ptr, lifting R but letting it hover over pos (ct 2); rock back on R (ct &).
NOTE: Meas 3 should bring ptrs so that R hips are adjacent. R arm extends across, but not touching, ptr's midriff. L arm extends fwd and slightly above shoulder level.
4 Step L bwd (ct 1); step R bwd (ct 2); close L to R (ct &).
5 Step R fwd twd ptr (ct 1); step L fwd twd ptr (ct 2); step R fwd, passing ptr R shoulder (ct &).
6 Step fwd L, continuing past ptr (ct 1); step R beginning a 1/2 turn L (CCW) (ct 2); step L completing 1/2 turn (ct &). Ptrs are now facing, several ft apart, with W back to ctr.
7-8 Repeat action of meas 5-6 (Fig II) exactly, passing ptr by R shoulder and returning to place as at beginning of Fig II.

BALLOS FROM KASSOS (continued)

B, C 9-24 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig II) twice more.

III. ROCKING STEP

W hold kerchief by 2 opp corners just below eye level. Play with it flirtatiously, moving it back and forth in front of face. This play with the kerchief is not typical of Greek girls, but is done in imitation of Turkish girls and there is, therefore, no definite style and may be interpreted by the dancer at her whim.

M hold opp corners of kerchief behind their necks. During meas 5, 6, 7, 8 M may tuck kerchief into neck of shirt in order to free hands for balance during full knee bend.

- A 1 Moving in LOD, step R (M cross R in front of L) (ct 1); step on ball of L, body swings slightly with step (ct 2); step to R on R (ct &). L ft may cross in front or in back of R on ct 2. Steps are very small.
- 2 Continuing to move in LOD, step L (ct 1); step R (ct 2); step L (ct &), crossing L in front or back of R.
- 3 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig III).
- 4 With slight knee bend, drop onto both ft (ct 1); step R, straightening knees (ct 2); step L (ct &).
- 5 W repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III) during meas 5-8.
- M drop to full knee bend (ct 1); recover with wt on L, R extended fwd (ct 2); cut R across L, taking wt (ct &).
- 6-8 M repeat action of meas 5 (Fig III) three more times.
- 9-12 M and W repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III), but M begin L instead of R, and on meas 12 omit drop and step R, L, R.

IV. TURNING STEP

Steps described for M - W on opp ft.

- B 1 Both moving in LOD, step L to L, (W step R to R) (ct 1); cross R behind L (ct 2); step L to L (ct &).
- 2 Continuing in LOD begin 2 complete turns, M L (CCW), W R (CW), cross R over L (ct 1); step L, completing first turn (ct 2); step R continuing into second turn (ct &).
- 3 Step L, completing second turn (ct 1); cross R over L, lifting L but letting it hover over its pos (ct 2); rock back on L (ct &). Ptrs are facing each other during meas 3.
- 4 Touch R to R, no wt (ct 1); hold pos and flex knees (cts 2, &).
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig IV), but reverse footwork and move in RLOD.
- 9-11 Repeat action of meas 1-3 (Fig IV) moving in LOD.
- 12 M move into line ahead of ptr by stepping R across L (ct 1); turning R (CW), step L (ct 2); hold (ct &).
- W touch L, no wt (ct 1); step L (ct 2); hold (ct &). Rejoin hands in the line.

V. KALAMATIANO WITH TURN

C 1-12 Repeat action of Fig I exactly.

VI. BALANCE AND CROSS OVER

A, B 1-24 Repeat action of Fig II exactly.

VII. ROCKING STEP

C 1-12 Repeat action of Fig III exactly.

VIII. TURNING STEP

A 1-11 Repeat action of Fig IV, meas 1-11 exactly.

12 M step R in place (ct 1); step L beside R, turning to face LOD (ct 2); hold (ct &); M remain on inside of circle.

W touch L to L, no wt (ct 1); step L turning to face LOD (ct 2); hold (ct &). W place L forearm and hand on back of M extended R hand and forearm.

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BALLOS FROM KASSOS (continued)

IX. PROMENADE

This Fig is done in a smooth gliding style – no upbeat hop, no bounce.

- B 1 Moving fwd in LOD, step R (ct 1); step fwd L (ct 2); step fwd R (ct &).
2-3 Continue fwd in LOD, alternating footwork of meas 1 (Fig IX) as necessary.
4 Release hands, W turn 1/2 R (CW), stepping L, R, L to move bwd in LOD.
M continue moving fwd in LOD, stepping L, R, L.
5-7 W moving bwd in LOD, M fwd, repeat action of meas 1-3 (Fig IX).
R arms extended across, but not touching, ptr's midriff. L arms extended to side at shoulder level.
8 Step L beginning a 1/2 turn R (CW) (ct 1); step R completing 1/2 turn (ct 2); step L in LOD (ct &); M now has back to LOD, W facing LOD. Reverse arm pos.
9-11 Repeat action of meas 5-7 (Fig IX) with M moving bwd in LOD, W fwd.
12 Continuing same footwork, M take slightly longer steps to get in front of ptr in a single line as in original formation. Rejoin all hands in the line.

X. FINALE

- C 1-3 Repeat action of Fig I, meas 1-3.
4 Step L to L (ct 1); cross R behind L, touching toe to floor, no wt, simultaneously raising joined hands high in air (ct 2); hold pose (ct &).