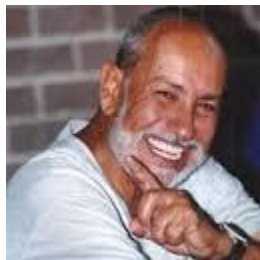


## Asal

(Israel)



Asal was choreographed by Moshiko Halevy (see photo) in 1991 and has strong Yemenite styling.

- Pronunciation: ah-S AHL Translation: I shall ask you...
- Music: 4/4 meter *Erica Goldman: Israel Dances, Track 6-7*
- Formation: Couples facing CCW, W on M's R. Inside hands are joined in W-pos. M and W use opp ftwk throughout this dance.
- Steps & Styling: Yemenite styling: elbows are bent, shldr's are slightly hunched and rising and falling with the beat, knees are slightly bent.
- Back Yemenite: Step R bkwd (ct 1); step L bkwd next to R (ct &); step R fwd (ct 2). Can be done with opp ftwk.
- Inside foot: When standing side by side with ptr, this refers to the foot closest to ptr, typically M's R, W's L.
- Outside foot: When standing side by side with ptr, this refers to the foot farthest from ptr, typically M's L, W's R.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>4/4 meter</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
4 meas		<u>INTRODUCTION</u> . No action.
	I.	<u>MOVING CCW, PIVOTING AND MOVING CW</u> .
1		Beg inside ft, two steps fwd (cts 1-2); step-together-step continuing fwd (cts 3-4).
2		Step fwd on outside ft, pivoting 1/2 through face-to-face to end facing CW (ct 1); take new inside hands in V-pos and step fwd on new outside ft (ct 2); step-together step continuing fwd (cts 3-4).
3		Step away from partner on outside ft while crossing wrists, arms bent at elbows so forearm is parallel to the floor (ct 1); step away from partner crossing inside ft in front (ct 2); back Yemenite step (cts 3&4).
4		Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk and direction, moving back to ptr. Step sharply bkwd onto outside ft (ct &).
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction, <i>except</i> without the step bkwd on the final count & of meas 8. Inside ft is now free. End facing CCW, hands free, arms bent at elbows so forearms are parallel to the floor.

## Asal — continued

II. TRACING A BOX.

- 1 Step fwd on inside ft and turn sharply  $\frac{1}{4}$  to put back to ptr (ct 1); step across in front, M's L, W's R (ct 2); step across in front again with other ft, M's R, W's L (ct &); back Yemenite (cts 3, &, 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 three more times, each time turning  $\frac{1}{4}$  to dance along another side of the box. End side-by-side, facing CCW.

III. MOVING AWAY AND MOVING BACK.

- 1 Join inside hands, jump onto both ft in place (ct 1); straighten knees with hop on outside ft leaning away from ptr (ct 2); releasing handhold, step inside ft in front of outside ft (ct &); three steps beg with outside ft while turn half to face CW (cts 3, & 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with same ftwk, but facing CW. End side by side facing CCW again.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

Sequence: Depending on the music used, the dance is done as described above either twice or three times.

Presented by Erica Goldman