

HEEIA

Ancient Hawaiian Canoe Dance (Hey-ey-ee-ah)

Record: Folkraft #1123B

Starting Position: Partners facing, seated on floor with legs crossed; stick in right hand; left hand with palm up, in front of body.

Stick: Bamboo stick (puili) about 18 inches long, closely spliced at one end, the "tip", for about 6 inches. The stick is held by the solid end, the "butt".

Note: The music and dance are divided into 3 parts in the following sequence: (1) Vamp; (2) Figures; (3) Chorus, EA-EA (Ey-ah-Ey-ah). Each part consists of 2 measures (8 counts) of music.

VAMP: Hit palm of left hand with stick (count 1), partners stick (2), Palm of left hand (3), Own left shoulder (4).

CHORUS: Hit back of left hand over left side of body, twice quickly (EA-EA) (1,2); Hit palm of left hand in front of body once slowly (3,4).

I - HANDS

FIG. 1 This is an introductory figure and the entire 12 measures are spent undulating the arms, indicating action of water. Sticks on floor between and in front of dancers; hands down at sides. Undulate hands continuously as arms are raised sideward overhead then lowered in front toward stick. Finish with stick in right hand at end of 8th count.

II - SHOULDERS

VAMP

FIG. 2 Hit own shoulders alternately starting with right shoulder for 8 counts.

CHORUS

III- PADDLING

VAMP

FIG. 3 Hold "butt" end of stick with both hands. Paddle twice to own right and twice to left, for 8 counts.

CHORUS

IV - SHOULDER STICK

VAMP

FIG. 4 Hit own right shoulder with stick (1), Partner's stick (2), own shoulder (3), Partner's stick (4). Repeat entire pattern counts (1-4).

CHORUS

V - ROWING

VAMP

FIG. 5 Hold stick, hand at each end, horizontally in front of and close to chest. Describe an outward circle with stick, body following the movement, imitating "rowing" a boat (counts 1-4).

CHORUS

VI - OVERHEAD

VAMP

FIG. 6 Hold stick over head toward right side, palms of hands pressing against ends of stick. Move stick over head from right side to left side (counts 1-2) and from left to right side (3-4). Repeat entire pattern (counts 1-4).

CHORUS

(cont. on next page)

HEEIA - (cont)

VAMP

VII - CHURNING

FIG. 7 Hold middle of stick with one hand. Describe a small circle rapidly, as if churning water, then, hit the floor with "butt" and of stick first to right side then to left as if trying to spear a fish (counts 1-4). Repeat entire pattern (1-4).

VIII - SPEARING

VAMP

FIG. 8 Hold middle of stick with one hand. Hit floor with "butt" end of stick, "stab fish", alternately from right to left for 8 counts.

CHORUS

IX - EXCHANGE

VAMP

FIG. 9 Throw own stick to partner and catch partner's stick in left hand; two exchanges per measure, four in all.

CHORUS

X - WAVE

VAMP

FIG. 10 Hold stick in right hand over to left side with spliced tip down. Wave stick from left to right side, twice (counts 1-4). Throw stick to partner and catch partner's stick (1-4).

CHORUS

XI - PADDLING

VAMP

FIG. 11 Repeat FIGURE 3, Paddling.

CHORUS

XII - WAVE

VAMP

FIG. 12 Repeat FIGURE 10, Wave, receiving own stick.

CHORUS Music retards, last EA-EA can be shortened. Place stick on floor, in front, as in beginning of dance. Stretch arms forward, place hand on top of hand with palms down, and Bow with head between arms.