



INTERNATIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE COMPANY

Post Office Box 5820

Los Angeles, California 90055-0820

HOE ANA

Background Information

Hoe Ana originates from the islands of Rarotonga, just to the west of Tahiti. The dance is of a style known as Aparima, in other words, a dance accompanied by hand gestures which are descriptive of the text. These movements can be either easily understandable, or very abstract. The Aparima is often called the Tahitian hula, because of the similarity in movements and gestures to the Hawaiian dance form with which most people are familiar. The costume for both boys and girls is either the traditional grass skirt, the boys wearing a shorter one, at knee length, or a colorful piece of fabric tied around the hip, called pareu.

The song Hoe Ana recounts the days of old when the Polynesian people were still migrating from one island to another. These travelers paddled continuously to reach Lano, the destination which, according to legends, lay just over the horizon. There is tedium in the feel of the song's rhythm, which relates to the seemingly endless paddling of these settlers, with no end in sight.

The words to Hoe Ana are:

Na puariki te vaka korua
Te tere mai nei havaiiki e
Ere tuna i o nei
I rarotonga roa
Na te vaka tau fenua e tapiri mai
To tatou fenua

Hoe ana, hoe ana
Hoe na te vaka te vaka nei
Haere mai na, haere mai na
Haere mai e ine ma e

Hoe ana hoe ana te vaka nei
Hoe ana hoe ana i te pae
Na te pahi aueue
Haere a i te ara

cont



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TAHITI

Dance position:

Standing, or sitting in kneeling position. (Kneel with legs together, sit back on heels). If danced in a sitting position, dancers may sit separately, spaced around the floor, or in groups of 5 or 6, sitting in single-file rows forming "canoes".

Verse 1

Counts 1-4: Lean to the side on left hand, while right hand reaches up to the right, and does two wrist turns. Lean to the side on right hand, while left hand reaches up to the left and does two wrist turns.

Counts 5-8: Place right forearm on top of left forearm, holding arms about 6-8 inches in front of chest. From this position, body and arms together will rock left, right, left, right.

Repeat entire verse 1.

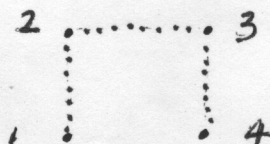
Verse 2

Counts 1-4: Hold right hand, palm facing floor, making two large circles on right side, keeping palm flat. Left hand makes two large, flat circles on left side, palm facing the floor.

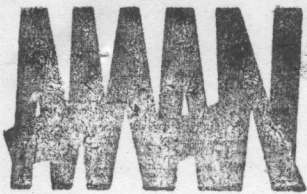
Counts 5-8: Place hands on either side of face, as if to peer a long way into the distance. Using this position, look right, center, left, center.

Counts 1-4: Bring right arm across body to left side, doing one "hand opening" movement on left side, then moving diagonally and up to the right side, right hand does one more opening movement. Bring left arm across body to right side, doing one "hand opening" movement on the right side, then moving diagonally and up to the left side, left hand does one more opening movement.

Counts 5-8: Make a "box" shape with 4 "hand opening" movements. Both hands move together forming this pattern:



Cont



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Counts 1-4: Right and left hands hold imaginary oar, and "paddle" two times on right side. Same movement follows on left side, paddle two times.
Counts 5-8: Repeat counts 1-4.

Counts 1-4: Holding right hand, palm facing floor, make two large circles on right side, keeping palm flat. Holding left hand, palm facing floor, make two large circles on left side, keeping palm flat.
Counts 5-8: Both hands go out to the side, then come together, around and down in front of the dancer. (Counts 5-6). Move both hands about a foot in front of the chest, palms facing audience. (Count 7). Bring hands to hips on count 8.

Verse 4 (Fast section)

Counts 1-4: Do two quick paddling movements on the right side, then both hands make two "flicking" motions out in front, to indicate splashing water. Do two quick paddling movements on the left side, then again two flicking motions to the front.
Counts 5-8: Right hand moves to the left side of the body and makes a flicking motion, then moves approximately in front of face and makes another. Left hand moves to the right side of the body and makes a flicking motion, then moves approximately in front of the face and makes another. (Counts 5-6). Dancer leans forward a little as both hands move down to the sides and slightly back. (Count 7). On count 8, dancer sits up straight again, and hands come together for two claps.

The entire fast verse is then repeated, but this last time there is only one clap, which signals the end of the dance.