

OLA TA MELACHRINA

(Thassos, North Aegean)

Thassos, located just off the coast of Macedonia in the northern Aegean Sea has a dance and music culture with both mainland and island influences. Popular on the island are several dance-songs of relative simple structures which are known by the title of the accompanying song. Such dances are the "Ahi-Vahi", "Ola Ta Poulakia", "O Orkos" and the present "Ola Ta Melachrina" which translates as "All the Brunettes". The dance has the light and lyric feel of many island dances. Source is as learned from Ted Petrides.

MUSIC: Dances of Greece 1994

FORMATION: open circle, mixed lines, open "W" hold

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas

STEP PATTERN

- 1 Facing ctr, Step R ft to the right (ct 1); Touch ball of L next to R (ct 2).
- 2 Step L to the left (ct 1); Touch ball of R next to L (ct 2).
- 3 Repeat Meas 1 (cts 1-2).
- 4 Step L slightly diag left fwd (ct 1); Touch (close) R next to L (ct 2).
- 5 Step R obliquely back to right (ct 1); Step L back and behind R (ct 2).
- 6 Touch close (stamp) R next to L (ct 1); Hold (ct 2).

NOTE: Dancers can substitute cross-behind Pas de Basques steps in the rhythm of Q-Q-S in Meas 1-3, and substitute a step(R)-together(L)-step(R) forward in Meas 4.