

1975 SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY FOLK DANCE CONFERENCE

Presented by David Henry

TÀ MAGHIA

BACKGROUND: A men's dance from Epiros which is a kind of Tsámikos. The name means "magic" and, as you will discover, that's about what it takes to keep your balance in this dance.

RECORD: PANHELLION LP KT1001

FORMATION: Men in lines, hands joined about ear level.

STYLE NOTE: The movements and slow tempo of this dance combine to create the effect of monumental heaviness, and yet, paradoxically, there is a feeling of tightness about the movements. The greatest disservice you can commit is to "hurry up and wait". Use all of the available music for the leg sweeps and you will look and feel the true majesty of the Epirote dancing.

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PATTERN

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Meas

- 1 Small leap on R sideways to R, sweeping L across in front of R knee and rising to ball of R ft with straightened knee by count 3 (cts 1-3) bending R knee again, swing L leg around in back and rising to ball of R ft as L comes up behind R knee on count 6 (cts 4-6)
- 2 Same movements as meas 1 with opp ftwk; begin with a small leap onto L across in front of R.
- 3 Repeat meas 1
- 4 Step on L sideways to L (cts 1-2) step on R across in front of L (ct 3) step on L sideways to L (ct 4) close R to L without weight (or lift R across in front of L knee) Ct 5) Pause (ct 6)