

ZEMER ATIK

(Israeli)

When Rivka Sturman returned to Israel from the United States in 1958 she decided that there was a need for a simple dance which had Jewish motifs and Israeli flavor. It needed to be simple so that the whole nation could participate. Rivka choreographed the dance, Zemer Atik, which means "Ancient Song", and then went to Amitai Ne'eman, who had composed many folk songs, and then to M. Kashtan. In this way was created the folk dance, the music and the words.

Music: Melodic line: Songs and Folk Dances, #3, pg. 28, Edition, "Negen", Joel Schreiber, 59 Allenby St., Tel-Aviv, 1958.

Record: *Symphonia, HS 201

Formation: Cpls in a single circle. W in front of M, R hand on L shoulder of person in front. All face in CCW, LOD.

Steps: Running, step bend

Music: 4/4

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
2	INTRODUCTION
1-2 I-	a) Begin with R. Do 4 light running steps fwd (ct 1-4) Step fwd R (ct 1); bend R knee and clap hands slightly fwd R outside of circle (ct 2). Step fwd L (ct 3); bend L knee and clap hands slightly fwd L inside of circle (ct 4). Keep hands at shoulder height.
3-8	Repeat action of Fig. 1 (a) three times
9-10	b) All face ctr of circle. Hs are held shoulder-height, elbows bent. HS ARE NOT JOINED. 2 step-bends R L twd ctr (ct 1,3); snap finger on (ct 2,4). Begin R and move Bwd with 4 light running steps (ct 1-4); bring hands gradually down to side. Body bends fwd. slightly.
11-16	Repeat action of Fig I (b) 3 times
II	a) Cpls in double circle, M on inside. Face CCW with inside Hs joined. Begin R, do 4 running steps fwd (ct 1-4). Facing pt do 2 step-bend steps toward pt (ct 1-4).
3	M sends W fwd to new ptr. W takes 4 light running steps; M does 4 steps in place (ct 1-4)
4	Face new partner; join inside Hs and do 2 step-bend steps in place (ct 1-4).
5-8	Repeat action of Fig. II (a), again changing partners on meas 5 & 7
c)	Cpls face CCW; inside hands joined.
1	Begin R. Do 2 step-bend steps fwd (ct 1-4). W takes 4 light running steps in place while making a 1/2 turn CCW under M's R arm. M does 4 steps in place (ct 1-4). M keeps R arm above W's head. W places R hand at small of M's back. M's L arm remains at side.
3	Both turn CW with 2 step-bend steps (ct 1-4)
4	W continues to turn CW to LOD with 4 running steps. M passes behind W's back to original position with light running steps (ct 1-4).
5-8	Repeat action of Fig. II (b)
	Finish in single line R H on L shoulder of person ahead.

As danced in Israel by
Miriam Lidster