

MISIRLOU

SOURCE: The first variation evolved from "LORKE LORKE ," a dance brought by Armenian immigrants from Daron, Western Armenia, during the early 1900's. The second variation came about as a result of an almost identical pattern done to what 2nd and 3rd generation Armenian-Americans called the "GREEK MISIRLOU". Both variations were learned by Tom Bozigian during the late 50's and early 60's at Armenian youth functions held throughout California.

RECORD: "Tom Bozigian Presents Songs and Dances of the Armenian People", Volume II, GT 4001.

FORMATION: Mixed line dance with little fingers grasped at above shoulder height and away from chest and dancers facing ctr with leader at R

MUSIC: 4/4 PATTERN

Meas (Note: Either or both of these variations can be danced)

VARIATION I

1 Cross L over R, touching L toes on fl (ct 1); lift toes on fl (ct 1); lift toes from the fl (ct 2); touch L toes on fl to L (ct 3); lift toes from fl (ct 4);

2 Repeat action of meas 1, cts 1-4 (cts 1-4).

3 Pivoting on R, step L with wt across R to face diag LOD (cts1-2); repeat action of meas 2, (cts 1-2) with opp ftwk and motinn (cts 3-4).

4 Repeat action of meas 3, ct 1 (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); step L behind R (ct 3); step R to R (ct 4); Meas 4 is "grapevine step".

VARIATION II

1 Brush L on fl beside R and swing fwd (ct 1); slight hop on R as L continues to swing with CCW movement to behind R (ct 2); step on L (ct 3); step R to R (ct 4).

2 Step L over R (ct 1); pivot on L to face diag RLOD as R knee is raised slightly (ct 2); moving RLOD, step R across L (ct 3); step L to L, facing ctr (ct 4).

3 Step R behind L (ct 1); slight hop on R as L swings fwd and CCW (ct 2); L continues to swing with CCW movement to step L behind R (ct 3); step R to R (ct 4).

4 Step L across R (cts 1-2); slight stamp R beside L with wt, pivoting to face ctr (cts 3-4).

When and number of times to dance the variations is left to the leader's discretion.

Notation by Tom Bozigian