

## AYŞAT

AYŞAT is an Azerbaijani-Turkish couple performance dance from the city of Kars in northeastern Turkey. AYŞAT was first introduced in the United States in September, 1978, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina by Ercüment Kılıç.

- Pronunciation : 'Eye-shot
- Record : Ercüment Kılıç Presents: Music of Turkey and Azerbaijan Hindi 001
- Meter : 6/8 (2 cts per meas.)
- Formation : Couples form two parallel lines facing audience. Woman slightly in front of man's R arm with arms held fwd, palms toward face. Man's arms in CMAP (see below).
- Styling : Caucasian Man's Arm Position (CMAP): L arm at shoulder level with elbow bent (arm and fist never touching body), closed fist pointed downward. R arm extended to side at shoulder level, closed fist pointed downward.

Azerbaijani-Turkish Woman's Hand Movements (WHM): R hand moves diagonally fwd to the right, palm turned inward, while L hand is brought toward body, palm turned outward; L palm inward as the R hand is brought toward body and L hand moves diagonally fwd to the left. Action is repeated in a very smooth and flowing manner. Generally, the head is turned toward the hand moving away from the body.

### Measures

1-4

### Pattern

Introduction.

During introduction, woman holds arms fwd, elbows slightly bent, palms toward face. During dance, woman uses WHM.

### PART I

#### Figure 1

(Description is for man; woman uses opp. ftwk).

- 5 (In place on balls of the feet), start by kicking R slightly fwd (ct & of 1); step R,L,R in place (cts 1,&,2); kick L slightly fwd (ct &). Woman begins WHM with L hand; man uses CMAP.
- 6 Repeat meas. 5, opp. ftwk; woman uses opp. WHM.
- 7 Repeat mwas. 5, turning to face partner. Man steps R, flat on floor (ct 2).
- 8 Touch L toe beside R foot with L knee turned out; man's and woman's arms are held fwd, elbows bent, palms toward face (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 9-12 Turn to face front again and repeat meas. 5-8 with opp. ftwk.

MeasuresPatternFigure 2 (Crossing)

- 13 Man kicks R behind (ct &) and crosses behind partner to partner's side in three steps: R,L,R (cts 1,&,2). Arms arch over into opp. CMAP. Pivot to face partner while kicking L behind (ct &).
- 14 Repeat meas. 1 with opp. ftwk, both returning to original side.
- 15 Repeat meas. 1
- 16 Touch L toe beside R foot with L knee turned out, facing partner, man's and woman's arms held as in meas. 8 (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3). (Partners have exchanged sides).
- 17-20 Repeat meas. 13-16 with opp. ftwk. (Partners end on original sides).
- 21-28 Repeat Figure 1 (meas. 5-8).
- 29-36 Repeat Figure 2 (meas. 13-20).
- 37-40 Repeat meas. 13-16 of Figure 2.

Figure 3 (Circling)

- 41 Man moves to partner's side, crossing in front, stepping L,R,L (cts 1,&,2). Turn to face partner, kicking R behind (ct &). Woman makes smaller steps and using WHM.
- 42 Man crosses in back of woman with three steps, R,L,R (cts 1,&,2) circling her. Turn to face partner, kicking L behind.
- 43 Repeat meas. 41.
- 44 Man points R toe beside L foot, R knee turned out, facing partner. Man's and woman's arms held as in meas. 8 (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 45-48 Repeat meas. 41-44, opp. ftwk, man crossing in front first.
- 49-52 Repeat meas. 41-44.
- 53-56 Repeat meas. 5-8.

## PART II

(Tempo changes to fast 2/4, four cts per meas.).

Man and woman use same ftwk until end of dance.

Man's arms in CMAP; woman holds hands up, elbows slightly bent, palms toward face.

MeasuresPattern

- 1 Walk R,L,R,L (cts 1-4) on balls of feet; woman is on right side of man.
- 57-91 Man goes down on L knee and claps; woman continues walking, circling partner.
- 2-56 Repeat meas. 1. First couple in right line leads off to left, followed by first couple in left line, second couple in right line, etc. Couples continue following lead couple.
- 92 Man leaps onto L, touches R toe beside L foot. Arms raised above head. Woman stops on right side of man, weight on L, touch R toe beside L foot.