

DODI LI

(Israeli)

"My beloved is mine and I am his
He feedeth among the lillies" - Song of Songs 11-16

DODI LI (DOH-dee LEE), a Yemenite couple dance, was presented by Dvora Lapson at University of the Pacific, Stockton, California, 1952. The melody is by Nira Chen and the dance was composed by Rivka Sturman. Originally reprinted by permission of Dvora Lapson and the Jewish Education Committee of New York, copyright 1952.

MUSIC: Record: Arzi 770 (now unavailable) 78 rpm;
National 453A (45 rpm); Vanguard VRS 9096A (33-1/3 rpm);
Electra LP EKL 186, Side 2 Band 2.

FORMATION: Cpls face CCW, inside hands joined shoulder high, W to R of ptr.

STEPS AND STYLING: Yemenite Step: Rise on R toe of R ft as L ft steps to L with bent knee (ct 1), step R slightly in back of L, extending both knees (ct 2), step L across in front of R, bending both knees (ct 3), hold (ct 4). Yemenite step to the R; use opp footwork.

Steps: Tcherkessia Step: (starts on ct 3 in Patterns II and III in Dodi Li):

Step L to side (in LOD (ct 3)), step R behind L (ct 4), step L to side (ct 1), step R in front of L (ct 2), step L to side (in LOD (ct 3)), hold (ct 4). *L ← R, L ← R, L ← R, LOD*

Hold body erect, knees relaxed. Ptrs should regard each other with affection, as this is a dance expressing love. Free hands held naturally at side and follow body movement.

Walk*

*Described in volumes of Folk Dances from Near and Far, published by Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 1095 Market Street, San Francisco, California.

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

INTRODUCTION varies with records used - No intro on Arzi 770

CHORUS

- 1 Beginning ML, WR, dance one Yemenite step in LOD. On ct 3, ptrs momentarily face RLOD. Hold (ct 4).
- 2 Cross MR, WL over opp ft (ct 1) to face LOD, hold (ct 2). Step fwd ML, WR, knees slightly bent, body inclined bwd (ct 3), close MR, WL (ct 4).
- 3 Step bwd ML, WR (ct 1), close MR, WL (ct 2), step ML, WR to side (in LOD), face ptr (ct 3), hold (ct 4).
- 4 Beginning MR, WL, dance one Yemenite step. The first step is to the side in RLOD (ct 1), the second step crosses in back (ct 2), the third step crosses in front in LOD (ct 3). Ptrs are again side by side facing LOD; hold (ct 4).
- 5-8 Repeat action of CHORUS, meas 1-4.

NOTE: The dance begins and ends with the CHORUS, and it is danced between each pattern.

DODI LI (concluded)I. MOVING BACKWARD IN LOD

- 1-2 Repeat action of CHORUS, meas 1 and 2 through ct 2 of meas 2 (Yemenite step and cross step). Beginning ML, WR, step fwd in LOD (ct 3), start 1/4 turn to ML, WR, release hands, step bwd in LOD on MR, WL (ct 4); join ML, WR hands. Ptrs face RLOD.
- 3 Beginning ML, WR, take 2 walking steps bwd in LOD (cts 1-2). Face ptr, step to side in LOD on ML, WR (ct 3), hold (ct 4). Hands move gracefully throughout this figure and are at shoulder height on ct 4.
- 4 Release joined hands. Join MR, WL hands and repeat action of CHORUS, meas 4 (Yemenite step), beginning MR, WL.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig I).
- 1-8 Repeat action of CHORUS (meas 1-8).

II. TCHERKESSIA (IN LOD)

- 1-2 Repeat action of CHORUS, meas 1 and 2 through ct 2 of meas 2, (Yemenite step and cross step). Beginning ML, WR, step to side in LOD (ct 3). Continuing in LOD, ptrs cross free ft behind ML, WR (ct 4).
- 3 Step to side (ct 1), cross free ft in front (ct 2), step to side (face ptr) (ct 3), hold (ct 4).
- 4 Repeat action of CHORUS (meas 4) (Yemenite step), beginning MR, WL.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II).
- 1-8 Repeat action of CHORUS (meas 1-8).

III. TCHERKESSIA (IN RLOD)

- 1-2 Repeat action of CHORUS, meas 1 and 2 through ct 2 of meas 2 (Yemenite step and cross step). MOVE RLOD. Cross free ft in front on (ct 3), step to the side (ct 4).
- 3 Cross free ft in back (ct 1), step to the side (ct 2) (face ptr); step twd LOD on ML, WR (ct 3), hold (ct 4). Body inclines twd LOD.
- This pattern differs from Pattern II in that the cross step starts on ct 3, whereas in Pattern II, ptrs step to the side on ct 3. The steps should be executed smoothly, with fluid movement of the body, even though the action is quick. ALWAYS observe the Hold on ct 4.
- 4 Repeat action of CHORUS, meas 4 (Yemenite step), beginning MR, WL.
- 5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III).
- (For Arzi 770, repeat entire dance; repeat CHORUS, FIG I, CHORUS. Hold pos to the end of the retard in the music, looking at ptr.)