

# Hasaposerviko

(Greece)

The hasapika dances are another form of which many indicative topical dances evolve with regional styles, Often various Hasapika dances are associated with an event, or with an occupation. Originally the Hasapika were disseminated from Byzantium (currently known as Istanbul, named after Constantinople fell). The butchers (*hasapis* in Greek) participated in the festivals sponsored by their guilds as a means of expiating their emotions from slaughtering animals at this great trade center. The emerging energy and fury from this dance developed a popularity which spread throughout the Balkans and the Near East. Greek island seamen were instrumental in disseminating these hasapika dances. The *Hasaposerviko* in time evolved of this particular tempo and form by influencing contemporary musicians and composers to play and compose new music to this ancient traditional form. Therefore, today we are dancing to updated melodies, music set to older established rhythms. The uniqueness of these Greek dances is that the dancers must follow the leader with all the changes and variations for an effective, coordinated effort.

Pronunciation: vah-REE hah-SAH-pee-koh

CD: The Spirit of Greek Dance with Athan Karras AK2001

2/4 meter

Formation: Arms in T-pos with dancers facing ctr of circle.

## Meas

## Pattern

### A. BASIC HASAPOSERVIKO

- 1 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L crossing behind R (ct 2).
- 2 Step on R to R (ct 1); touch L toe next to R ft, no wt (ct 2).
- 3 Step on L to L (ct 1); touch R toe next to L ft, no wt (ct 2).
- 4-15 Repeat meas 1-3 four more times.

### B. MESA STEP (STEPPING IN)

- 1-2 Repeat Fig A, meas 1-2.
- 3 Step fwd to ctr on L (ct 1); swing R ft fwd through in the air (ct 2).
- 4 Step on R behind L (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct 2).
- 5 Step on R to R (ct 1); touch L toe next to R ft, no wt (ct 2).
- 6 Step on L. to L (ct 1); touch R toe next to L ft, no wt (ct 2)
- 7-30 Repeat meas 1-6 four more times.

### C. PSEFTIKO (FALSE STEP)

- 1-3 Repeat Fig B, meas 1-3.
- 4 Step on R in front of L (ct 1); rock onto L ft (ct 2).
- 5 Swing R ft and step on R behind L (ct 1); swing L ft and step on L behind R (ct 2).
- 6 Repeat Fig B, meas 5.
- 7 Repeat Fig B, meas 6.
- 8-35 Repeat meas 1-7 four more times.

## Hasaposerviko—continued

D. MISSO ZORBA (HALF ZORBA)

- 1-3 Repeat Fig B, meas 1-3.
- 4 Swing R leg and step on R across in front of L (ct 1); step on L to L (ct 2).
- 5 Step on R across behind L (ct 1); swing L ft and step on L behind R (ct 2).
- 6 Repeat Fig B, meas 5.
- 7 Repeat Fig B, meas 6.
- 8-35 Repeat meas 1-7 four more times.

E. FULL GRAPEVINE STEP (ZORBA STEP)

- 1-3 Repeat Fig B, meas 1-3.
- 4 Grapevine step(2 meas): step on R in front of L to RLOD (ct 1); step on L to L (ct 2).
- 5 Step on R behind L in RLOD (ct 1); step (rock) on L to L (ct 2).
- 6-8 Repeat Fig A, meas 1-3.
- 9-40 Repeat meas 1-8 four more times.

F. CLAP & SLAP STEP

- 1-2 Repeat Fig A, meas 1-2.
- 3 Release T-pos and step on L twd ctr, clapping hands (ct 1); swing R ft high to ctr, slapping heel with R hand (ct 2).
- 4 Bring R ft directly in front of L, rising on both toes (ct 1); full turn (pivot) in RLOD and immediately bed knees to stop (ct 2).
- 5 Step on L to L, returning to T-pos (ct 1); bring R next to L, no wt (ct 2).
- 6-25 Repeat meas 1-5 four times.

G. ENA, DYÓ, TRIA, MESA (ONE, TWO, THREE, IN)

- 1-2 Repeat Fig A, meas 1-2.
- 3 Syncopate three quick steps to ctr L,R,L (ct 1); kick R leg fwd (ct 2).
- 4 Step bkwd on R across behind L (ct 1); step bkwd on L across behind R (ct 2).
- 5 Pas de basque beg R in LOD (ct 1); pas de basque beg L in RLOD (ct 2).
- 6-25 Repeat meas 1-5 four times.

Presented by Athan Karras