

Liakena

(Sarakatsani, Greece)

The Sarakatsani or Karakazani are Greek-speaking former nomads who roamed with their herds throughout the Southern Balkan Peninsula. The dance is a Tsamiko type dance often done to the tune "Despo."

Pronunciation:

Cassette: Steve's Stockton '97, The Big 50

6/4 meter

Formation: Women in a circle, W-pos, wt on R.

Meas

Pattern

DANCE

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, hop on R and lift L ft slightly behind (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct 2); turning to face ctr, step on R to R side (ct 3); turning slightly to face L, step on L across and behind R (ct 4); turning to face slightly R, step fwd on R in LOD (ct 5); step fwd on L in LOD (ct 6).
- 2 Step fwd on R in LOD (ct 1); step fwd on L and swing arms fwd and down (ct 2); turning to face ctr, step on R to R and bring arms up to W-pos (ct 3); hop on R in place (ct 4); turning to face L of ctr, hop on R again in place (ct 5); step fwd on L to L (ct 6).
- 3 Step on fwd R in front of L (ct 1); turning to face ctr, step on L to L side (ct 2); hop on L in place bringing R ft low in front (ct 3); brush R toe across and in front of L ft (ct 4); low loose kick R ft fwd and slightly to R (ct 5); step on R beside L (ct 6).
- 4 Hop on R in place (ct 1); step on L in place (ct 2); hop on L in place (ct 3); repeat meas 3, cts 4-6, but turn to face slightly R of ctr on ct 6 (cts 4-6).

VARIATION I WITH TURN

Turn CW once on cts 5, 6 of meas 1, finishing turn with ct 1 of meas 3. Arms in W-pos.

VARIATION II WITH TURN

Turn twice CW on cts 5, 6 of meas 1, continuing to turn on cts 1, 2, 3 of meas 2.

VARIATION III WITH TURN

Turn CCW once on cts 1, 2 of meas 3. Arms in W-pos. Note: prepare to turn on ct 6 of meas 2.

Presented by Steven Kotansky