

MAMA LO RAITI
(Israel)

Mama Lo Raiti (Ma-ma Low Rra-ee-tee), means "Mama, I never saw such a beautiful girl." The music is traditional Sephardic (or Lidino which refers to the language spoken) and stems from the Jews that left Spain during the Inquisition (during the first part of the 16th century). The dance was choreographed by Shlomo Bachar.

RECORD: I Remember, Hadarim IV, Side B, Band 4.

FORMATION: Circel, facing ctr, hands joined and down.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Cts.

INTRO: 12 Cts (3 Meas). The dance is counted 4 cts per meas.

FIG. I.

- 1-4 Leaving L in place, step R to R, step L in place, touch R heel fwd, touch R toe fwd.
5-8 Hop on L while lifting R leg, step bkwd R,L, step fwd on R.
9-16 Repeat cts 1-8 to L. Except on last ct (ct 16), cross L in front of R.
17 Hold.

FIG. II.

- 1-2 Cross R over L, hold.
3-6 Step back on L, step R to R, touch L heel fwd, touch L toe fwd.
7-10 Hop on R while lifting L leg, step bkwd L,R, step fwd on L.

FIG. III.

- 1-4 Dropping hands, step fwd on bent R leg while lifting L slightly off floor - extend hands fwd with palms up, step bkwd on L, step bkwd on R while bending knees slightly and leaning back - hands are brought down and extended out to sides with palms up, step fwd on L.
5-8 While moving into ctr of circle, turn 1-1/2 turns CW, stepping R,L,R,L. End with back to ctr of circle.
9-12 With ft slightly apart, sway in place R,L,R,L. Hands are extended slightly away from body approx waist high, palms down and parallel to floor.
13-24 Repeat cts 1-12 with same ftwk. On cts 5-8 move out of ctr of circle and end facing in.

continued...

FIG. IV.

- 1-4 Cross R in front of L, facing CW (RLOD) step back on L, facing ctr step R to R, facing CCW (LOD) cross L in front of R and bend legs.
5-6 Step back on R, face ctr and step slightly L with L.
7-10 Repeat Fig. III, cts 5-8.
11-12 In place sway R,L. Hands are extended slightly away from body approx waist high, palms down and parallel to floor.
13-18 Repeat cts 1-6 facing out.
19-24 Repeat cts 7-12. On ct 10, end facing ctr of circle.

Repeat dance 2 more times.

To finish dance step R to R, place L heel across R.

Presented by Shlomo Bachar

West Hollywood Playground Institute, June 1974