

MERMINGAS

(Kefallonia)

The dance Mermingas which means "ant" is a local dance from the Ionian island of Kefallonia. The dance alternates between two parts and has an unusual formation found in a few other dances such as Tai Tai, Stin Apano Yitonia and others.

MUSIC: Dances of the Greek Islands

FORMATION: Open circle, alternate W-M; "plektos" hold, ie, two open circle dance lines with the W in the front and the M in the rear, the first W is spaced between the first and second M. The dancers of each circle are linked by the simple "W" hold and in forming a single circle the M raise their hands over the heads of the W then lower them down into a "V" linkage. The change in formation and linkage is initiated during ct 2 of Meas 1.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas

PART A

- 1 Facing ctr, one open circle; Step R to R (ct 1); Step L slightly behind R (ct 2).
- 2 Step R to R (ct 1); Lift or touch L slightly in front of R (ct 2).
- 3 Step L back to L (ct 1); Lift or touch R slightly in front of L (ct 2).

PART B

- 1 Two open circles; Step R to R (ct 1); Step L slightly behind R (ct 2).
- 2 Low leap R to R, lifting L in front of R (ct 1); Step L back next to R (ct 2), step back onto R (ct 2).
- 3 Step L to L (ct 1); Lift R in front of L (ct 2).