

# MITERÍ TSA

(Dear Mother)

(Pontos-Greece)

The name of the dance "Miterítsa" (mee-teh-REET-sah) comes from the words of song to which it is done. It is a diminutive form of the word "mother". Miterítsa was taught at the 1977 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp, Stockton, California, by John Pappas, who says it is both a game and a dance, for both children and adults. Described in Ellikini Horí, V. Papahristos (Athens, 1960) and Greek Folk Dances, M. Vouras and R. Holden (New Jersey, 1965).

MUSIC: Record: Folk Dancer MH 4052 B. 4/4 meter.

FORMATION: For greatest enjoyment Miterítsa should be done in small groups. Approximately 8-10 M are together at R end of open circle, hands joined and down ("V" pos). Approximately 8-10 W are joined to L end of M. Last M joins his L hand with R of 1st W. 1st M has R hand free; last W has L hand free. It is not necessary for each M and W to have a ptr. There may be more M than W - or vice versa.

STEPS AND STYLING: Step-hop, Step-close: step fwd on R (ct 1) (this may be a slight stamp). Knee is straight. Step on L close to R heel (ct 2). Knee is slightly bent, toe turned out a little.

Note: Step does not alternate. More emphasis is given when stepping on R; more knee flex is given when stepping on L.

This is a happy, lively dance-game in which there is much clapping of hands. The dancers should have lots of fun.

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MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

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Measures

NOTE: Record begins with several meas of "tune-up" music before Introduction.

2 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. VARIATION "A" (vocal)

1-4 All face to R and move fwd (LOD) with 8 step-close steps. On last step (L), all turn L to face RLOD.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 exactly, but moving RLOD. End facing ctr.

II. VARIATION "B" (instrumental)

1 Dancers drop hands. They stand in place and clap own hands in front as lead M (at R end of line of M) skips across to W (cts 1,2,3,4).

MITERÍ TSA (continued)

2-4 Choosing one of the W, he hooks R elbows with her and they turn CW with 4 skips (cts 1,2,3,4). They hook L elbows and turn CCW with 4 skips (cts 1,2,3,4). Lead M leaves this W in her place. Inactive dancers continue to clap.

5-8 Quickly choosing another W, M repeat elbow swings with her. Lead M may do this with several ptrs if he has time.

There are 8 meas of instrumental music before the vocal begins again and the lead M returns to orig place as all dance Variation "A" once more.

After 8 meas of Variation "A", Variation "B" is repeated, but this time the W who first danced with lead M is the one who leaves the line and dances across to choose a M to dance with her. This M will be the person to beg Variation "B" when it is later repeated for a 3rd time.

Dance continues to end of music, always alternating between M and W leaders.

