

Papadhopanayiotena or Syrto Tsirighotikos

(Kythira or Tsirigho)

This popular dance "game" is from the island of Kythira or Tsirigho off the southern coast of the Peloponnese. The tune is called "Papadhopanyiotena," meaning the wife of the priest Panayiotis. The leader is traditionally a male. The style is typical of most island regions: a lilting syncopated two-step.

Pronunciation: pah-pah-thoh-pahn-ah-YOH-teh-nah

Cassette: Greek Dances 1992 #2

2/4 meter

Formation: Two concentric open circles of which each first dancer holds a kerchief in his/her R free hand while the ends of both are held together in the left hand of the "leader." Joined hands in W-pos.

Meas

Pattern

8 meas

INTRODUCTION. No action.

PART A. Island or Aegean style Syrto (S, S, Q) pattern

- 1 Facing ctr, step on R to R (ct 1); touch L next to R (ct 2).
- 2 Step on L to L (ct 1); touch R next to L (ct 2).
- 3 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L back of R (ct 2); step on R to R (ct &).
- 4 Step on L across behind R (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2); close L next to R (ct &).

PART B. Forward Syrto

- 1 Step on R to R (ct 1); touch L next to R (ct 2).
- 2 Step on L to L (ct 1); touch R next to L, swinging arms down to V-pos and pivoting to face R of ctr (ct 2).
- 3 Step fwd on R in LOD (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct 2); smaller step on R near L (ct &).
- 4 Step fwd on L (ct 1); step fwd on R (ct 2); smaller step on L near R (ct &).
- 5-16 Repeat meas 3 and 4 six times.

PART C

Same ftwk as Part B, but the leader holds the kerchiefs in separate hands, thus opening the circle and can form a bridge under each of his raised arms, dance the opposite direction and have the lines pass under or, with arms down, have the lines turn inward, etc.

Pattern:

Part A—7 times, Part B—once

Part A—3 times, Part B—once

Part A—3 times, Part B—once

Part A—3 times, Part C—to the end

Presented by Joe Kaloyanides Graziosi