

Paraliakos

Greece (Agean)

Paraliakos (pah-rah-lee-ah-KOHSS) was learned by Lee Otterholt from Giorgios Lelakis in the mid to late 90's. Mr. Lelakis was a well known Cretan dance teacher. "Paraliakos" means "by the seaside" and Mr. Lelakis calls the dance "the beach dance." Mr. Lelakis believes the dance resembles those like "Gaitenaki rodou." The melody is sometimes referred to as "Vrastsera," a type of boat mentioned in the song text. Lee Otterholt presented the dance at the 2003 Stockton Folk Dance Camp, and at the 2000 at the Laguna Folk Dance Festival institute besides other California venues.

Music: Cassette: Dances of Ethnic Minorities by Lee Otterholt, side A/1

CD: "Dances of European ethnic minorities," by Lee Otterholt, Track 1; "I Bratsera" by Giannis Parios "ta nissiotika 2" Minos - EMI MCD 1017/8 (Available from Greek Music & Video, 25-50 - 31st St., Astoria, NY 11102).

Formation: Open circle, either in front basket hold (L over R) or in V-pos.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. Begin on any downbeat. A good place to begin is one meas after the vocal begins.

Note: Even though the dance steps go in a regular 8 ct pattern, the music is, for the most part not in phrases of 8, so the dance and music phrases do not coincide. As a result you could begin anywhere you want (as long as it is not on the offbeat!). Another consequence of this non-concurrence is that you could (theoretically) begin the dance at any point in the dance phrase. Lee Otterholt begins the dance the same way Mr. Lelakis did, as he was the original source for the dance.

DANCE

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving R (LOD), step on L ft in front of R (ct 1); step on ball of R ft to R (ct &); step on L in front of R (ct 2).
- 2 Step (sway) on R ft to R with bent knee (leave L ft in place on floor), turning body to face slightly L of ctr (ct 1); step (sway) on L ft to L with bent knee (leave L ft in place on floor), turning body slightly to face slightly R of ctr (ct 2).
- 3 Step straight fwd on R ft twd ctr (ct 1); step diag bkwd to L on ball of L ft (ct 2); quickly step (almost a small leap) on R ft next to L (ct &).
- 4 Step on L ft crossed behind R (and "push off" from R ft) (ct 1); step on R ft to R (ct 2). Note: Meas 3, cts 1-2, and meas 4, ct 1 describe a backwards "D" floor pattern.

We wish to thank Sharon and Bob Gardner for assistance with the musical source.

LYRICS:

Pote tha nixome pania / na katso sto timoni, (2x)

Na do tis Leros ta vouna / na moudiathoun i poni? (2x)
will

A-ah, vratsera mou ella yia tho / pou'echo dyo
loyia na sou po.

Ximerose, Anatoli / to kosmo na fotisi, (2x)

Ke ti vratsera pou'erchete / na tin kalosorisi. (2x)
approaching.

A-ah, paï o brouzos sta fountari / kio keros de sioundari.
not

Pafse Vouria mou na fisas / ta kimata n'afrisis (2x)
waves,

Ke ti vratsera pou'erchete / na mi ti foverisis. (2x)
approaching.

A-ah, paï o brouzos sta fountari / ke tou spasi to kontari.

O-oh.....

When will we set sail/ so I can sit at the tiller,

So I can see the mountains of Leros/ so that my pains
subside?

A-ah, my little fishing boat come here/ since I have
something to tell you.

Bring the dawn, oh Eastern Sky/ and shine your light
on the world,

And welcome my little fishing boat that is

A-ah, the breeze is getting stronger/ and the weather is
subsiding.

Oh North Wind stop blowing/ and make foam on the

And do not frighten my little fishing boat that is

A-ah, the Breeze is getting stronger/ and it will break
the mast.

O-oh....