

SEPASTIA BAR

SEPO  
Armenian

**SOURCE:** Learned by Tom Bozigian at the various Armenian youth social gatherings in Los Angeles, Calif., during the mid-1960's. The dance has other variations taught by Tom in the early 1960's which he learned from Armenian immigrants from Sepastia, Ancient Western Armenia, which since 1920 has been occupied by Turkey.

**RECORD:** "Songs and Dances of the Armenian People" GT3001-LP, Side 1, Band 4.

**FORMATION:** Line dance with leader at R, little fingers grasped at shoulder level.

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**MUSIC:** 2/4 changing to 6/8 PATTERN

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2/4 RHYTHM

Measure -- Dance begins on 5th meas. Each meas. described in 2 cts.

- 1 Facing diag. LOD, touch L heel on fl. across R with slight plie (ct. 1); slight hop on R in pl. to face ctr. as L raises in front & across R (ct. 2).
- 2 Turning to face diag. L, step L to L (ct. 1); slight hop on L as R lifts behind (ct. 2).
- 3-4 Repeat meas. 1-2 with opp. ftwk. & dir. (cts. 1,2 - twice).
- 5-8 Repeat meas. 1-4 one more time (cts. 1,2 - four times).
- 9 Moving R, do 2-step starting with L as hands come down to side (cts. 1, and, 2).
- 10 Step R to R as hands are raised to orig. pos. (ct. 2).

6/8 RHYTHM

- 1 Releasing little finger hold, touch L ft. on fl. across R with plie as hands clap at waist level (ct. 1); turning to face ctr. hop on R in pl. as L raises in front & across R while R hand (4 fingers in front) is placed on R waist & L hand (palm away) is raised high over head (ct. 2).

(Continued)

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Measure

- 2 With hands remaining in same position, jump in pl. with plie to both ft. in diag. RLOD (ct. 1); leap L in pl. as R heel lifts behind (ct. 2).  
NOTE: Steps of meas. 1-2 are same as steps described at beg. of dance (2/4 rhythm) but with stronger hops & more aggressive movements.
- 3-4 Repeat meas. 1-2 (6/8 rhythm) but with opp. ftwk., arm movement, body dir. (cts. 1-2 - twice).
- 5-8 Repeat meas. 1-4 (6/8 rhythm) one more time (cts. 1-2 - four times).
- 9 Moving R, do 1 running 2-step in slight plie starting with L as hands clap waist level ea. time L steps (cts. 1, and, 2).
- 10 Skip off L to R as arms swing fwd. & bk. (ct. 1); hop R in pl. as L heel lifts behind & arms swing further back (ct. 2).

NOTE: Optional small Armenian "Kertsee" as in Wedding Dance from Kafan may be executed at meas. 2, 4, 6, 8 in place:  
Leap on both ft. (ct. 1); leap on R as L heel lifts behind (ct. and); leap on L as R heel lifts behind (ct. 2).

Notes by Tom Bozigian

SEPO

- Meas. 1: replace the word across with- in front of R in LOD  
Meas. 10: insert after the words R to R-(ct. 1) and add to end of ct. 2- L lifts behind  
Meas. 10 of 6/8 rhythm: Delete the word forward from first sentence  
Add to end of dance : Repeat dance to end