

Presented by Ted Sofios

SITIAKOS (SITIAKE SOUSTA)

The dance that most reflects its' polemic origin is the sousta of eastern Crete. Ted Petrides calls it SETEIAKO PEDEKHTO (hopping dance of Sitia). It is related to the sousta of Kassos and Karpantos and to the Dodecanesian Sousta of Athan Karras with its' many military maneuvers. The introductory or warm up steps of the dance are from the SOUSTA DODECANISOU of Mary Vouras and Ricky Holden's Greek Folk Dances, p. 80.

Records: PILPS- 94 Q Greek Dances, record 3, side 4-2
Fez 706 A or B

Rhythm 2/4

Starting position: Front chain position, right foot free.



Introduction-Basic step

Measure

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | | Step sideward Rt. on Rt. foot, Step sideward Rt. on L ft. |
| 2 | | Step sideward Rt. on Rt. foot, Touch L ft. to Rt. ft. |
| 3 | | Step to center on L ft. Touch Rt. ft. to L ft. |

Variation I

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|---|--|---|
| 1 | | Step sideward Rt. on Rt. ft. (count 1) |
| | | Facing slightly left, step backward on L ft. (count 2) |
| 2 | | Turning to face center, a small step-together step Rt. (cnt. 1&2) |
| 3 | | As basic above. |

Variation II

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|---|--|---|
| 1 | | As basic above. |
| 2 | | A small step-together step R (counts 1 & 2) |
| 3 | | A small step-together step L (to center) (counts 1 & 2) |

Traveling step-obliquely to Rt.

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|---|--|---|
| 1 | | Step obliquely forward on ball of Rt. ft. bending knee (slow) |
| | | A small quick hop-step obliquely Rt. (quick-quick) |
| 2 | | Step obliquely Rt. on Rt. ft. (slow) |
| | | Step obliquely Rt. on L ft. (quick) |
| | | Step obliquely Rt. on Rt. ft. (quick) |
| 3 | | Step on L ft. (slow) |
| | | Hop on L ft. swinging Rt. ft. out, knee bent (slow) |

OR Limping Variation (for measure 3)

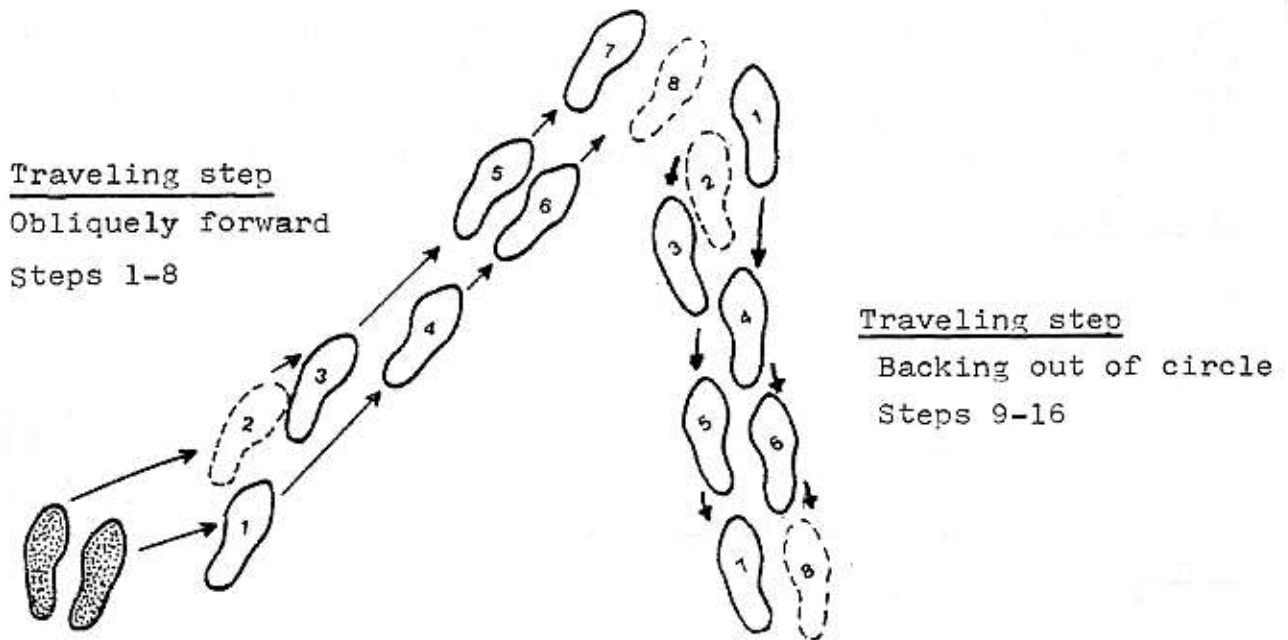
- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 3 | | Same |
| | | Bring ball of Rt. ft. to meet heel of L ft. and push weight onto L ft. sliding slightly forward. (quick-quick) |

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| 4-6 | | Repeat measures 1-3 traveling backward out of the circle and reversing the footwork. <i>continued...</i> |
|-----|--|--|

7 SITIAKOS

Rhythm: add the following S,Q,Q counted 1,& 2 &
Introduction-Basic Step, add to end of meas 1: or L behind R
Variation I, add to bottom of Var: Note: meas 2-3 maybe done
as small bounces, rather than steps.

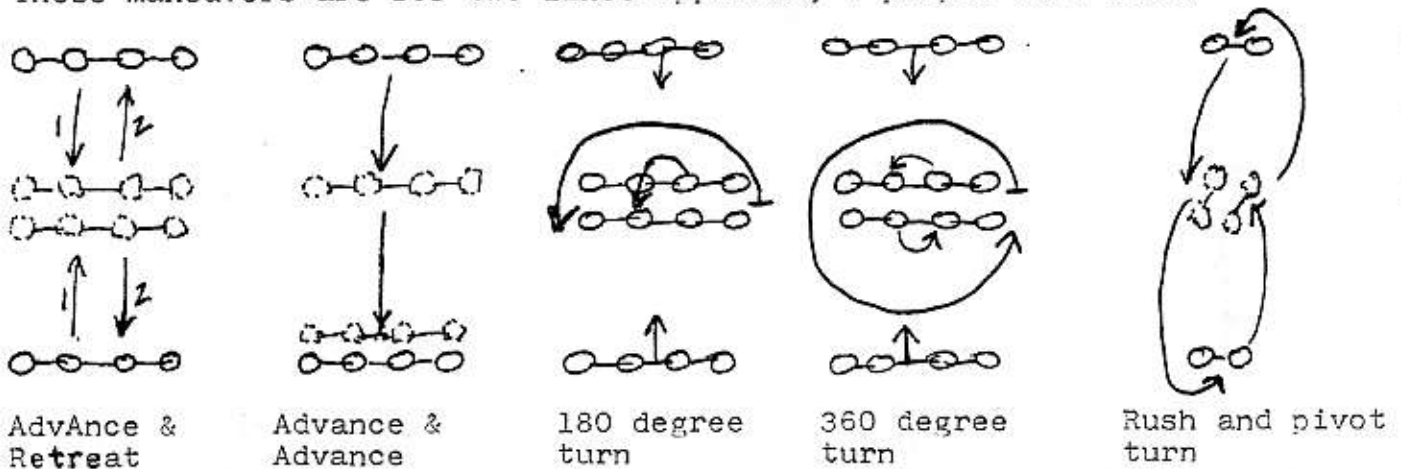
Traveling Step, meas 1, line 2 should read....hop-step on L
obliquely.....



(Arthur Murray "feet" courtesy of Ted Petrides)

The polemic maneuvers use the traveling step in many ways, moving straight ahead then backing up, chasing, retreating, pivoting and a wild rush of pairs at each other, pivoting and narrowly missing a collision. These movements were taught by Athan Karras, and performed in the Oakland Greek Festivals.

These maneuvers are for two lines opposite, 4 people to a line.



- 8 Add under "Advance & Retreat": 1 Travel step fwd, 1 travel step bwd.
 Add under "Advance & Advance": 2 Travel Steps
 Add under "180 degree turn": 1 travel step fwd, 1 travel step turn, 1 travel step back.
 Add under "360 degree turn": 1 travel step fwd, 2 travel steps turn, 1 travel step back.
 Add under "Rush and pivot turn": 1 Travel step fwd, pivot on step -hop