

TOMZARA

Armenia

SOURCE: This is one of the most popular dances done by the Armenian people both in Soviet Armenia and in the Armenian Diaspora. The version of this dance was brought by Western (Anatolian) Armenians to the U.S. during the last decade of the 19th century and early part of the 20th century. Several other versions exist from the various folk regions of both Eastern and Western Armenia, having been taken there by travelers and having evolved into other variations. Tom Bozigian danced these variations as a child in Fresno, Ca.

PRONUNCIATION: Tahm-zah-rah

CASSETTE: The Best of Tom Bozigian CD Vol. 1

FORMATION: Mixed lines with little fingers joined at shoulder height ("W" pos) leader on R, and face center throughout dance

RHYTHM: Tomzara, 9/8

MEASURE **INTRODUCTION: 2 meas.**

TAMZARA: (9/8)

1 Facing ctr, step R bkwd (cts 1-2) slight hop R in pl as L knee raises fwd (cts 3-4) step slightly fwd on L as R lifts slightly bkwd (cts 5-6) step R bkwd as L kicks fwd low to floor (cts 7-9)

2 Step L bkwd (cts 1-2) slight hop L in pl as R knee raises fwd (cts 3-4) step R to R, L stays in pl (cts 5-6) step L behind R as R kicks fwd low to floor (cts 7-9)

3 Moving sideway R, step R to R as hands bend R (cts 1-2) step L behind R as, arms bend L (cts 3-4) repeat cts 1-4 (cts 5-9)

4 Moving ctr, step R ahead as arms lower to sides (cts 1-2) hop R in pl as L lifts behind (cts 3-4) step L fwd as hands raise to "W" pos (cts 5-6) stamp R twice in pl (cts 7-8) hold (ct 9)

NOTE: In Armenian line dances where the little fingers are joined and where there is no definite arm movement described, there still exists a slight arm punctuation or bobbing as guided by the rhythm and speed of the music.