

# LEVANTIANOS

(Zakynthos)

Zakynthos, one of the Ionian Islands off the west coast of Greece, shows remarkable western, especially Italian, influence in its popular musical traditions. The dance traditions however, are characterized by traits typical of most Greek dances. Common to Zakynthos (also known as Zante) is a light style with a preference for skipping steps. The Levantianos is the common Syrto dance of the island. The name refers to the Levant, an older term for the east Mediterranean.

MUSIC: Dances of the Greek Islands

FORMATION: Open circle, "W" arm hold

---

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

---

Meas

## BASIC

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr; (skip) step R fwd LOD (ct 1); Step L fwd next to R (ct 1&), Step R fwd (ct 2).
- 2 (skip) Step L fwd in front of R (ct 1); Step R fwd (ct 1&), Step L fwd in front of R (ct 2).
- 3 (pivoting to face slightly more ctr), Step R sdwrds to R (ct 1); with slight hop on R, Lift L off ground (ct 2).
- 4 Step L back into place (ct 1); with slight hop on L, Lift R off ground (ct 2).

## VARIATION A

- 1 - 2 Same as Meas 1-2 above,
- 3 Pivoting to face slightly L of ctr, (skip) Step R over & in front of L (ct 1); Step L fwd RLOD (ie. leftwards) (ct 1&), Step R fwd in front of L (ct 2).
- 4 Pivoting to face ctr, step L sideways L (ct 1); with slight hop on L, Lift R slightly off ground (ct 2).

## VARIATION B

Same as Part A above, except in Meas 3, ct 2: Pivoting to face slightly R of ctr, step L behind R RLOD.

*Presented by Joseph Kaloyanides Graziosi at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 1994*