

OLA TA MELACHRINA
(Thassos, North Aegean, Greece)

Thassos, located just off the coast of Macedonia in the northern Aegean Sea has a dance and music culture with both mainland and island influences. Popular on the island are several dance-songs of relative simple structures which are known by the title of the accompanying song. Such dances are the "Ahi-Vahi", "Ola Ta Poulakia", "O Orkos" and the present "Ola Ta Melachrina" which translates as "All the Brunettes." The dance has the light and lyric feel of many island dances. Source is as learned from Ted Petrides.

Pronunciation:

Cassette: Greek Dance Sum '88 2/4 meter

Formation: Open circle, mixed lines, open "W" hold.

Meas

Pattern

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Facing ctr, step R ft to R (ct 1); touch ball of L next to R (ct 2). |
| 2 | Step L ft to L (ct 1); touch ball of R next to L (ct 2). |
| 3 | Repeat meas 1. |
| 4 | Step L slightly diag fwd L (ct 1); touch (close) R next to L (ct 2). |
| 5 | Step R obliquely bkwd to R (ct 1); step L back and behind R (ct 2). |
| 6 | Touch close (stamp) R next to L (ct 1); hold (ct 2). |

NOTE: Dancers can substitute cross-behind Pas de Basque steps in the rhythm of Q-Q-S in meas 1-3, and substitute a step (R)-together (L)-step (R) fwd in meas 4.

Presented by Joe Kaloyanides Graziosi