SOULTANA

– Athan Karras
LL '73

PRONOUNCED: SUL-TA-NAH

SOURCE: It is from the north eastern part of Greece Thrace, namely, the area of Soufli, as the song tells of Soultana (the Sultan's wife) from Soufli. The dance as such and its form is referred to as Stavrotos, (crossed hands) and also as PASHALIA, meaning that it is an Easter dance, observed at spring festival in Thrace and danced by the PANHELLENIC Folk Dance Ensemble.

FORMATION: An open circle with arms stretched out crossing over your neighbor's arms as in a basket hold. Leader may tuck the person next to him, his arm under his left arms tightly so that he may have one hand free to lead dance and execute more variations.

RECORDING: CHORODRAMA 4509, Panhellenion Folk Ensemble recording.

MUSIC 2/4	PATTERN
Measure	THE FIRST IS SLOW. DANCERS SHOULD SING THE SONG
1	In R LOD step with R ft to R (count 1) cross L ft and step in front of Rt ft (count 2)
2	Repeat the same as in Measure #1 (counts 3-4)
3	step R ft to R (count 5) bring L ft in front of R ft, and ladies touch toe - Men raise L leg, with bent knee (count 6)
4	step to L LOD with L ft to L sideways (count 7) bring R ft in front of L ft and ladies touch toe, men raise L leg (count 8)
	FIB (B) MUSIC IS FASTER-INSTRUMENTAL PART
1	syncopating the steps and stepping in RLOD on the balls of your feet stepping R, LR (counts 1-2)
2	" " " " " " " L, R,L, (counts 3-4)
3	jumping to the R and somewhat center with both feet (counts 1-2) stamping L ft and raising L ft in air as simultaneously hopping in place on R ft
4	jumping bwds on L,R,L, quickly and bringing feet together (counts 1-)
	REPEAT SAME TO FAST MUSIC AND RETURN AGAIN TO SLOW PART WHEN VOCAL.

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YIA STON APANO MAHALA, SOULTANA, SOULTANA
STA PERA PARATHYRIA, SOULTANA E SOUFLIOUTOUTHA
AGHAPISSA MIA KOPELIA, SOULTANA, SOULTANA
N'AXIZI NA TIN PARO, SOULTANA E SOUFLIOUTOUTHA
POTE THA'RTHY ENAS KEROS, SOULTANA, SOULTANA
TH'ARTHY ENA KALOKERI, SOULTANA, E SOUFLIOUTUOTHA.

NOTE: FIRST IS A SOLO PART USUALLY SUNG BY THE LEADER AND THE REST OF THE DANCERS FOLLOW AS IN THE CHORUS.