

Presented by Mary Ann Herman

WARAKU ODORI (HAT VERIONS)

Japan

This dance was first presented at the Maine Folk Dance Camp by Hiriyuko Ikema-san and Earle R. Buckley, the latter writing these directions. Note that there are 2 dances to the same music. A light straw hat, rather large and cone-shaped, adorned with tissue paper flowers, is necessary. As a substitute you can use large paper plates in which case a stapled crepe paper flower on one side indicates the top side of the hat.

Hold hat in front of body to start, one hand on each side of hat, lightly, so you can twirl it one way and another during dance.

RECORD: FOLK DANCER MH 2010

FORMATION: Begin dance with all facing center, hat held close to thighs and mark time with music with the hat beating against the thighs.

## DANCE STEP PART 1

Count 1: Step back on Left foot flicking Right foot up off floor towards Left foot, toe pointing down.

Count 2: Step forward on Right foot.

Count 3: Step back on Left foot again.

Count 4: Raise Right foot up with bent knee.

Count 5: Step back on Right foot.

Count 6: Step forward on Left foot.

Count 7: Step back on Right foot.

Count 8: Raise Left knee.

## PART 2 - Face clockwise.

Step to Left on Left foot and touch Right toe down behind Left heel.

Step to Right on Right foot and touch Left toe down behind Right heel.

Repeat all of Part 2.

NOTE: PART 1 is done facing center of circle. PART 2 is done facing clockwise. FINISH by bringing feet together and face center and rest hat in front on thighs hands straight down.

Begin dance from beginning.

In teaching Japanese dances it is suggested that foot work be taught first, then the hand motions, or vice versa, and then put whole dance ~~together~~.

See page 59 for the other form of the Waraku Odori dance.

## HAND MOTION PART 1

Count 1: Swing hat with both hands downwards beside Left hip, bottom side up.

Count 2: Swing hat diagonally forward, twirling it to finish top-side up.

Count 3: Swing hat back beside Left hip again.

Count 4: Place hat top side up on Right knee.

Count 5: Swing hat downwards towards Right hip, bottom side up.

Count 6: Swing hat diagonally forward top side up with a twirl.

Count 7: Swing hat downwards beside Right hip.

Count 8: Place hat top side up on Left knee.

## PART 2 - Face clockwise.

Count 1: Scoop hat to Left so it is top side out beside left side of body, Right hand on top.

Scoop hat to Right so it is top side out beside Right side of body. Now Left hand is on top.