

Presented by Stephen Kotansky

BOIMITSA
Macedonia, Greece

This dance, along with similar dances such as Ti Kles Kaimeni Maria, Tou Katsamba and Kale Maria, comes from Alexandria (formerly Gida), Imathia County, Macedonia. Boimitsa takes its name from a town near Alexandria. It is an interesting 6 meas dance starting in a slow, almost unidentifiable rhythm and graduates into a fast 11/16 which is danced like a Syrtos or Kalamatianos. As learned from Irina Loutzaki and Elefteris Drandakis, by Stephen Kotansky.

RECORD: Available on tape or PFF I (B2), or VISIPAP LPVAS 231;
Balkan Arts 709-B

FORMATION: Lines joined anywhere from a "V" to a "W" pos, facing R of ctr.

RHYTHM: Meter: 1,2,3,4 5,6,7 8,9,10,11 (S,Q,S)
Dancers Cts: 1 2 3

steps & style: W dance in a much more subdued manner than

METER: 11/16

PATTERN

the M in the villages.

Meas

FIG. I: Slow

Music: This part, in which the musicians usually follow the lead dancer, will be noted in dancers cts.

- 1 Step R fwd (ct 1); step L in front of R (ct 2); touch R near L instep and hold *or bounce on R* (ct 3) *or touch R on back of L heel*
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Facing ctr, step R to R side, lift L leg, straight knee, low and in front of R (ct 1); bend and straighten on R (ct 2); bend and straighten R as L moves sharply around and in back of R (ct 3).
- 4 Step L bkwd bending both knees (ct 1); bend and straighten on L as R lifts (knee straight), low and in front of L (ct 2); bend and straighten L, draw R sharply around and in back of L (ct 3).
- 5 Repeat meas 4, with opp ftwk.
- 6 Step L to L (ct 1); touch ball of R ft beside L (ct 2); hold or bounce on L (ct 3).

Repeat until music speeds up.

FIG. II: Fast

- 1 Facing ctr, step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2); turning to face slightly R of ctr, step R fwd (ct 3).

Continued...

- 2 Step L,R,L fwd (cts 1-3).
- 3 Step R to R (ct 1); touch ball of L ft near R instep (ct 3); hold (ct 3).
- 4 Repeat meas 3, with opp ftwk.

NOTE: As music becomes faster, the touches on ct 2, meas 3 and 4 become bounces on the supporting ft on cts 2 and 3. The free ft is held close to the supporting heel. Also, as the music speeds up, dancers begin to add hops and even turns.

A slight lift may precede ct 1 of each meas of the Fast part.

