

Dervenaghas

(East Macedonia, Vlachs)

The dance Dervenaghas from the title of the song, refers to the chief of the mountain guardsmen. It is from the repertoire of the Romance-speaking pastoralist Vlachs of eastern Greek Macedonia. These Vlachs settled here from the Pindos mountains of Epiros 150-200 years ago, but still show strong Epirot influence in their preference in music and dance. As learned from the Society of Vlachs of Serres.

Pronunciation:

Cassette: Greek Dances 1992 #1

3/4 meter

Formation: Open circle, mixed lines. Joined hands in W-pos.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION

FIGURE

- 1-2 Facing slightly R of ctr, step R in LOD (cts 1-3); step L in front of R (cts 1-3).
- 3-4 Step on R in LOD (cts 1-3); step fwd on L in front of R (ct 1); pivoting to face ctr, step on R to R (cts 2-3).
- 5-6 Step back on L behind R (cts 1-3); step on R to R next to L (ct 1); pivoting to face slightly R of ctr, step L in LOD (cts 2-3).

Note: In the refrain or faster part, cts 1-3 are each preceded by a hop.

Arms: Positioned in an open W-pos, arms swing down to V-pos on meas 2; up to W-pos on meas 3; down to V-pos on meas 4 through meas 5, ct 1; from the neutral V-pos, they swing back on meas 5, ct 3; fwd on meas 6, ct 1; back on ct 2.

Repeat dance from beg until end of music.

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