

KARSILAMAS
Greek Macedonia

Karsilamas is danced in Macedonia, Turkey and Asia Minor. This is a dance of flirtation. Karsilamas means face-to-face. The steps are done with a small leaping manner. There are other variations and other names for this dance.

MUSIC: Records; Nine 4549 - A
 Festival Marinella 3504 - A

FORMATION: Cpls of M and W facing each other, at random around the dancing area. The W twirl a handkerchief in their R hand or place hands on hips. M twirl handkerchief in R hand or extend arms to side about head height, and may snap fingers in rhythm.

MUSIC 9/8

PATTERN

Meas Cts

PART I: BASIC DANCE

Both M and W start to R, so as to move away from each other.
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BASIC STEP TO R

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----------------------|
| 1 | 1-2 | Step R to R. |
| | 3-4 | Step L in front of R. |
| | 5-6 | Step R to R. |
| | 7-8 | Hop on R ft. |
| | 9 | Hop on R ft. |

BASIC STEP TO L

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----------------------|
| 2 | 1-2 | Step L to L. |
| | 3-4 | Step R in front of L. |
| | 5-6 | Step L to L. |
| | 7-8 | Hop on L ft. |
| | 9 | Hop on L ft. |

Repeat above 7 times (8 times in all).

PART II: VARIATIONS

Using the Basic Step many variations in pos are possible:

1. M and W may move in same direction, M starting to L, W to R. Alternate directions with each Basic Step.
2. M and W move twd each other with 1 Basic Step almost touching R shoulders. Then both move back to place with a Basic Step. Repeat for a total of 4 Step.

Continued...

KARSILAMAS (CONT'D)

PART II: VARIATIONS

3. Same as 2 except that L shoulders almost touch.
4. Same as Basic Dance except that M and W turn CW moving to R, CCW moving to L. Repeat for a total of 4 or 8 Basic Steps.
5. Ptrs may do a Do Si Do. Do 1 Basic Step passing R shoulders, 1 Step passing behind each other, 1 Step moving bwd and passing L shoulders, and 1 Step facing and moving to original place.
6. Same as 5 except that L shoulders are passed first.

Other variations are found in -

"Folk Dances of the Greeks", Petrides, Exposition Press, 1961

"Green Polk Dances", Holden and Vouras, Folkraft Press, 1965