

KLEISTÓS  
(Thessaly, Greece)

"Kleistós" means "closed", and refers to the hand hold used in the first part of the dance, where the dancers are spaced very close to each other. Kleistós is the most unique dance of the Argitheia area of the Agrafa mountains of Thessaly. Because the region was so inaccessible (primarily the haunt of shepherds and Klephts), the Ottoman authorities never bothered to register the villages for tax purposes, hence the name "Aghrafa" ("the unwritten ones"). A tradition still extant in the region is the "official" start of a public celebration signaled by the local priests who would lead the Kleistós dance for a short while. The dance is in two parts: 1) "Tsamiko"-like, in 6/8 meter, and 2) "Sta Dhio"-like, in 2/4 meter.

Cassette: Greek Dance Sum '87 6/8 and 2/4 meter

Meter: Part 1 is in 6/8 (4 2) Part 2 is in 2/4

Formation: Open circle, facing just slightly R of ctr, elbows bent, forearms close together (L over R), hands joined with fingers clasped (optional) or R arm hooked in neighbor's crooked L elbow.

Meas

Pattern

Part 1 BASIC PATTERN

Dancers' cts 1-2 (S-Q).

- 1 Step R fwd LOD (ct 1); step L fwd across in front of R (ct 2).
- 2 Step R fwd (ct 1); lift-swing L (knee bent) up and in front of R (ct 2).
- 3 Lean back and rock onto L, lifting ball of R (leg straight) with heel remaining on ground, toe up (ct 1); roll onto R and draw L knee to R knee (L toe can touch next to R) (ct 2).
- 4 Touch L (toe) back and slightly L (ct 1); step L across and in front of R (ct 2).

Part 2 BASIC PATTERN

(Hands gradually open to W pos and circle opens.

Rhythm: S-Q-Q.

Transition: Step R fwd LOD (ct 1).

- 1 Step L across and in front of R (ct 1); swing R leg (knee bent) around and in front of L (ct 2); bounce on L, swinging R around in back of L (ct &).
- 2 Step R to the back of L (ct 1); step L across and behind R (ct 2); step R fwd LOD (ct &).

Presented by Joseph Kaloyanides Graziosi

KLEISTOS HOROS  
 "Simera The ,na Katevo"

(Kleistos)

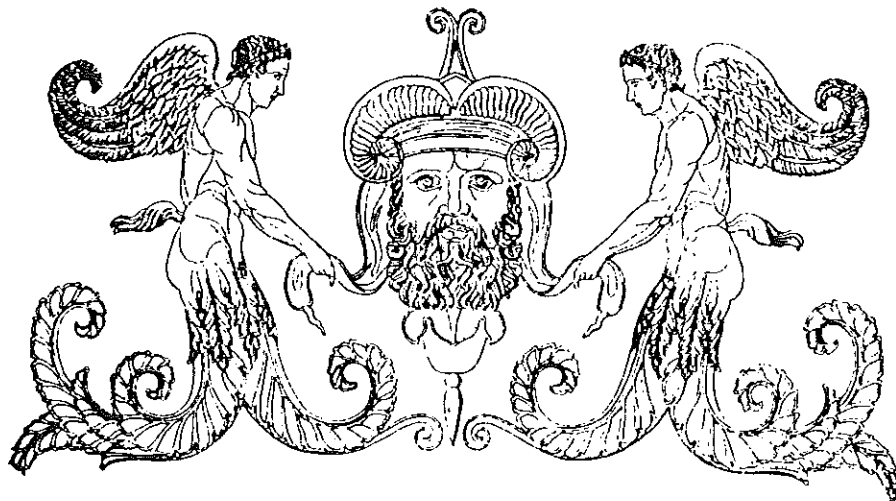
Simera the 'na katevo kato stin kria vrisi  
 yia navro tin aghapi mu, 'na tin periskaniaso

(Amolitos)

Tin ivra ke ti skaniasa, nisafi dhen tis kano  
 "Igho ivra ki aravoniassa, na vris ki'esi na paris  
 ki'an thelis, ki 'an katadhekhtis nuna na stefanosis"

Today I want to go down to the cold spring  
 to find my love, to drive her to distraction

I found her and I drove her wild,  
 I didn't give ;her an inch  
 "I've found one and got engaged,  
 find someone yourself and take him  
 and if you want, and if you accept  
 be our sponsor and place the wedding crowns"



KLEISTÓS HORÓS  
(Aryitheia, Aghrafa, Thessaly)

Ai simera the' (more the') na katevo (2x)  
Kato se kria vrissi

Ai yia na vro tin (more tin) aghapi mu (2x)  
Na tin periskaniaso

— — — — —  
(Ai) tin ivra (ke more) ke tin skaniasa (2x)  
nisafi dhen tis kano

(Ai) n'igho ivra (ki'more) ki'arravoniasa (2x)  
na vris ki'esi na paris

(Ai) ki'an thelis (ke'an more) ke'an katadhehtis (2x)  
nuna na stefanosis

Translation:

Today I want to go down to the cool well in order  
to find my love and tease her to no end.

I found her and I teased her, I didn't give her  
a break

"I've found someone and have gotten engaged,  
you should find someone also  
And if you wish and if you accept,  
you can be our wedding sponsor