

KRÍTIKO SYRTÓ

Crete

Krítiko Syrtó (KREE-tee-koh seer-TOH) means pulling or leading dance from Kríti (Crete). The Syrtó is the most traditional of all of the folk dances of Greece, and this one from Crete has its own particular style. Katina Savvidis learned this dance in Athens, 1973. The music for dances of Crete is nearly always played on the Cretan violin, called a lyra, played with a bow across strings which are stopped with the nails instead of the pads of the fingers. Krítiko Syrtó is also known as Haniótiko Syrtó (from the city of Haniá on the western end of the island). Through its derivative Misirlou, which begins the sequence on meas 4, it is probably the best known Greek folk dance in the world.

RECORD: Folkraft LP-6 "Greek Folk Dances Vol. II," side B, band 2;

FORMATION: Open circle or lines of mixed M and W with hands joined and held at shoulder height in "W" pos.

STEPS AND STYLING: The syrtó category of dances in Greece is done with the feet close to the floor and without leaps. Other styling points have been omitted from the description below and these notes are meant to be used only as a refresher cue sheet.

Music 2/4

PATTERN

- | | |
|------|--|
| Meas | INTRODUCTION - none (or wait for beginning of a phrase) |
| 1 | Facing ctr, touch ball of L beside R (ct 1), small step bwd L (ct 2), step R beside L (ct 3), |
| 2 | Step fwd L (ct 1), step fwd R with toe diag to L (ct 2), pivoting slightly on R in an open stance and turning to face to L, step L in RLOD (ct &), |
| 3 | Still facing L, step fwd R in RLOD (ct 1), step bwd L (ct 2), step R beside L (ct &), |
| 4 | Step bwd L in LOD (ct 1), pivoting to face ctr touch ball of R beside L (ct 2), step R beside L (ct &). |

Repeat entire dance from beginning.

Taught by: Katina Savvidis

Continued...

Katina uses 2 & as pick up beats to start dance - before meas 1.

KRITIKO SYRTO

State

Twizzles into toes going back

shuffles & hop on first 2 men with hop at end

RECORD: Folklore LP-5 "Greek Folk Dances Vol. II," side B, band 1;

FORMATION: Open circle or lines of mixed M and W with hands joined and held at shoulder height in "W" pos.

NOTE: The syrtos category of dances in Greece is done with the feet close to the floor and without jumps. Other styling points have been omitted from the description below and these notes are meant to be used only as a reference and check.

PATTERN

Music 2/4

Verse

INTRODUCTION - none (or wait for beginning of a phrase)

1

Facing ctr, touch ball of L beside R (ct 1), small step fwd L (ct 2), step R beside L (ct 3).

2

Step fwd L (ct 1), step fwd R with toe drag to L (ct 2), pivoting slightly on R in an open stance and turning to face to L, step L in RUD (ct 3).

3

Still facing L, step fwd R in RUD (ct 1), step fwd L (ct 2), step R beside L (ct 3).

4

Step fwd L in LUD (ct 1), pivoting to face ctr touch ball of R beside L (ct 2), step R beside L (ct 3).

Repeat entire dance from beginning.

Taught by: KATINA SAVVIDIS

Continued