

- 1 & Forward r.
- 2 Together l.
- & Forward r.
- 1 & Forward l.
- 2 Together r.
- & Forward l.
- Facing center of circle do balance step.
- 1 & Side r.
- 2 Cross l. over r., shifting weight.
- & Shift weight back to r.
- 1 & Side l.
- 2 Cross r. over l., shifting weight.
- & Shift weight back to l.

PETRIDES

CRETIKO SYRTO

As is typical of many island Syrtos, the leader performs various hand-slaps on thighs, soles and heels, does numerous leaps, turns and acrobatic maneuvers while the line moves smoothly and evenly.

Here we have the half-moon figure inscribed on the ground taking us back to a moon-goddess symbolism. It has a refined vigor and spirit, and with it comes to mind all the splendors of the Aegean civilization, when Crete was a thalassocracy. The dance moves generally to the right, however in certain areas the dancers move back and forth; in some places the dance is heavy and slow, in others quite peppy; the basic figure remains the same.

Characteristics: Depending on the feeling of the music. The dancer moves vigorously with sharp, quick steps or very smoothly, almost daintily. Leader will move a little forwards sometimes, then back. Occasionally will hold line with other hand (r. hand).

Formation: Open circle moves counter-clockwise. Regular W handhold.

Time: 2/4

Steps:

- 1 2 Point left toe forward.
- 1 Circle left behind right and step.
- 2 Step side right foot.
- 1 2 Cross left in front of right. Body facing right oblique.
- 1 Side right foot.
- 2 Together left.
- 1 Cross right in front of left. Body facing left oblique.
- 2 Lift up on ball of right foot and hold l. foot, ankle high.
- 1 Step on left foot, behind r. foot.
- 2 Side right foot.
- 1 2 Cross left in front of right. Body facing center.
- 1 2 Together right.

Note:

The steps to the Cretiko Syrto have been applied to the music of the song, "Misirlou." This dance was performed to the strains of this music, "just for the fun of it," and it seems to have been picked up by folk-dance enthusiasts throughout the country.

Actually though, it does resemble an odalik dance; i.e., a harem dance, though hands or small fingers were not held, and there is a slight difference in the steps.

PETRIDES

NESIOTIKO SYRTO

Characteristics: Joyous with lilting movement.

Formation: Open circle, moving counter-clockwise with regular W handhold.

Time: 2/4