

**MARIA**  
~~Israeli~~ Israeli

**MUSIC:** Blake, Porter & Gomez Escolar  
**SINGER:** Ricky Martin  
**ORIGINAL RECORDING:** CD "A medic vivir" (live recording)  
**CHOREOGRAPHY:** Alberto Zirlinger 1998  
**FORMAT:** Solo dancers scattered across the floor

I learned this dance while a member of the Manitoba International Folk Dance Association in Winnipeg, Canada. It was taught to the fast Spanglish remix, that had been additionally edited for the dance. I prefer the live original. It is an example of the Latin-American trend in Israeli dancing.

**SPECIFIC STEPS:**

Pivot: After transferring weight to the forward foot (a.k.a. step), turn 180° away from that foot to face opposite direction. Feet stay on spot. Return weight to original foot.

Kick ball change (right): Kick or flick R (1), take small step back onto the ball of the R foot with part weight (&) and then step on the spot onto L (2).

All are facing front (= "north"; I'm using N, E, S, W to indicate direction).

Intro - instrumental. Start on vocal.

**Measure:**

- 1-4 Step fwd R (1), pull L close (&), step R (2), step L (3), pivot R (4)
- 5-8 Facing S: step fwd L (1), pull R close (&), step L (2), step R (3), pivot L (4)
- 9-12 Facing N: lift R knee (&), step R across L (1), lift L knee (&), step L across R (2), jump up with both arms high (&), land both feet aligned (3), pull both arms down with elbows bent while pulling up L knee (~fetal position) with momentum to turn 90° to R (4)
- 13-16 Facing E: step fwd L (1), pull R close (&), step L (2), step R (3), pivot L (4)
- 17-20 Facing W: step R (1), step L (2), step R (3), step L (4)
- 21-24 Kick ball change (1, &, 2), step R (3), pivot L (4)
- 25-28 Facing E: Step R while turning 90° to L to face N (1), close L sideways (&), step R (2), step L crossed behind R (3), step R in place (4)
- 29-32 Make 360° swivel on R or turn L (1), R (2), jump (&) and land both feet aligned (3), and stretch R leg forward (4)

Notes: Hanneke Meij

Presented by Hanneke Meij (Cincinnati) at TriCity Festival in Dayton, March 14, 2004.

Maria (original version)

Ella es Una mujer especial  
Como caida de otro planeta  
Ella es Un laberinto carnal  
Que atrapa y no te enteras

Asi es Maria  
Blanca coma el dia  
Pero es veneno si te quieres enamorar  
Asi es Maria  
Tan caliente y fria  
Que si te la bebes de seguro te va a matar

Un, dos, tres  
Un pasito pa'delante , Maria  
Un, dos, tres  
Un pasito pa' atras  
Aunque me muera ahora, Maria  
Maria, to tengo que besar

Ella es Como un pecado mortal  
Que te condena poco a poco  
Ella es Un espejismo sexual  
Que te vuelve loco; loco

Asi es Maria  
Blanca coma el dia  
Pero es veneno si te quieres enamorar  
Asi es Maria  
Tan caliente y fria  
Que si te la bebes de seguro te va a matar

Un, dos, tres  
Un pasito pa'delante, Maria  
Un, dos, tres  
Un pasito pa'atras  
Aunque me muera ahora, Maria  
Maria, a mi que mas me da