

Presented by
Tom Bozigian

PAEELANJO
Armenia

SOURCE:

This dance was first learned by Tom Bozigian in the fall of 1965 from Jora Makarian, director and choreographer of the California Armenian Folkloric Ensemble. Mr. Makarian was director of folk dance in the district of Ashtarakee, northern Soviet Armenia. He had formal dance training in Tiflis, Soviet Georgia, and later, he directed a professional dance ensemble in Stuttgart, West Germany. He immigrated to the United States in 1950 and he continues to direct his ensemble in Los Angeles, California. This dance is still being performed throughout the many northern regions of Soviet Armenia. The root comes from the word "Paeelag" which means lightning and some of the movements are linked to the tight-rope dancer.

RECORD:

"Tom Bozigian Presents Songs and Dances of the Armenian People" Volume III, GT 5001, Side 2, Band 3

FORMATION:

Mixed line dance with leader R as dancers utilize little finger hold at shoulder ht but changing to hands at 6/8.

MUSIC:

2/4-6/8

PATTERN

Measure

2/4 Note: working ft flexed throughout

1

Facing diag R step R ahead (ct 1) Step L across R (ct 2)

2

Facing ctr step R to R as arms swing down & bk (ct 1)
Hop R in place as L lifts behind (ct 2)

3

Raising hands to orig pos touch L heel on floor ahead of R wiggling whole leg (ct 1) Lift L heel sharply behind with slight hop on R (ct 2)

4

Repeat meas 3 ct 1 (ct 1) Kick L sharply in front above fl (ct 2)

5

Step L in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1)
Step R in pl prancing as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 2)

6

Step L in pl prancing (ct 1) Hop L in pl as R lifts behind (ct 2)

7

Repeat meas 3 ct 1 with opp ftwk (ct 1) Repeat meas 4 ct 2 with opp ftwk (ct 2)

8

Step R in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1)
Step L in pl prancing as arms swing up to 45 deg arms straight (ct 2)

9

Bending torso fwd touch R heel on fl straight leg diag R (ct 1) Touch R heel straight leg on fl ahead (ct 2)

10

Turning to face diag RLOD skip off L to straight-legged R as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 1) Skip bkwd on R to L as arms swing down & bk (ct 2)

continued...

SOURCE:

PAEELANJO (cont)

Measure

Note: When repeating step hands swing fwd bk fwd.

6/8 In most cases each meas described in 2 cts
Working ft flexed throughout

- 1 Facing ctr & moving R skip-step L to R as arms swing bk & fwd (cts &1) Leap L across R as R heel lifts behind & arms swing bk (ct 2)
- 2 Skip-step L to R as arms swing fwd (ct &1) Hop R in pl as L lifts behind & arms raise to orig pos (ct 2)
- 3 Hop R in pl as L heel straight leg touches on fl ahead (ct 1) Hold (ct 2)
- 4 Chug fwd on R bent knee as L heel is drawn to inside of R knee (ct 1) Chug bk on R straight leg as L kicks fwd straight & above fl (ct &) Step bk on L as R scissors fwd touching heel to fl (ct 2)
- 5 Chug fwd on L bent knee as R touches bk straight leg (ct 1-2)
- 6 Bending torso fwd & extending arms out hop on L to L as R heel touches ahead (ct 1) Repeat meas 6 ct 1 (ct 2)
- 7 Repeat meas 6 ct 1-2 (cts 1-2) Note: touches graduate RLOD

Turning Variation--For meas 6-7 with the 4 touches of R heel and hands releasing to clap with each touch the body executes 360 degree counter clockwise turn. This variation may be done every other time or at discretion of leader.

Description by T. Bozigian

FD Symposium 80

10 Turning to face dia RLOD skip off L to straight-legged R as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 1) Skip bkwd on R to Bending torso fwd touch R heel on fl straight leg dia R (ct 1) Touch R heel straight leg on fl ahead (ct 2)

9 Bending torso fwd touch R heel on fl straight leg dia R (ct 1) Touch R heel straight leg on fl ahead (ct 2)

8 Step L in pl prancing as arms swing up to 45 deg arms straight (ct 2)

7 Step R in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1) Repeat meas 7 ct 1 with opp foot (ct 1) Repeat meas 4

6 Step L in pl prancing (ct 1) Hop L in pl as R lifts behind (ct 2)

5 Step R in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1) Step L in pl prancing as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 2)

4 Step L in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1) Step R in pl prancing as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 2)

3 Step L in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1) Step R in pl prancing as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 2)

2 Step L in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1) Step R in pl prancing as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 2)

1 Step L in pl prancing as arms swing down & bk (ct 1) Step R in pl prancing as arms swing up to orig pos (ct 2)

Continued