PENTOZALI (Crete, Greece)

The Pentozali is one of the most popular dances of the island of Crete. It sometimes is done in a medium tempo which speeds up to a very fast tempo (Ortses). It is not an authentic part of the dance to do several fancy variations in unison.

Pronunciation:

Record: Society for Dissemination of National Music #114

Side A/3 2/4 meter

Formation: Dancers in a line, or a broken circle, with arms on shldrs.

Styling: It is sometimes done with men and women in separate lines,

but it is also correct for men and women to dance in a mixed line. Sometimes when men are in a separate line, they do the steps in a larger, more robust manner. The dance can be done calmly or with great vigor. Usually dancers will start calmly with small steps and movements

and gradually build up to a more spirited style and mood.

Meas	$\underline{\mathtt{Cts}}$	<u>Pattern</u>
1		BASIC STEP Facing ctr, step sdwd R on R ft. Lift R heel, swinging L in front of R, or hop on R ft.
2	3	Step sdwd L on L ft. Lift L heel, swinging R in front of L, or hop on L ft.
3		Step (or leap) to R on R ft, bending the R knee. L ft can stay over place (ct 2, meas 2) or it can be swung in front of R. Step to L on L ft. Step across in front of L on R ft (facing RLOD), lifting L ft behind slightly.
4		Step back (in place) on L ft. Facing ctr, step sdwd R on R ft. Step next to R (or in front, or behind) on L ft.
1		VARIATION Same as Basic Step.
2		Step fwd on L ft. Lift L heel, or hop on L ft, bending R knee with R ft behind L calf or knee, or swing R ft in front of the L.
3	•	Step diag bkwd on R ft. Same as Basic Step.
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Same as Basic Step.

PENTOZALI (Continued)

VARIATION

The leaders can do turns or other variations. Often the leader will join his or her right hand with the second dancer's right hand (facing the second dancer). Sometimes the second dancer will let go of the third so that the first two dancers dance as a couple in front of the rest of the line. During these variations, all dancers are doing the basic variations.

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