

STA TRIA
(Greece)

= Στὰ Τρία =

Source: This is a dance which is done in Thessaly, Epiros and Makedonia in northern Greece. Recently I learned that the dance was also done in southern Arkadia under the title "Trio". The name describes the "three steps" of the dance.

Bibliography: Elliniki Hori, Papahristos, (Athina, 1960)
Folk Dances of the Greeks, Petrides, (N. Y., 1961)
Elliniki Hori, Bikos, (Athina, 1969)

Music: 2/4 or 3/4 time. Any good Sta Tria tune can be used. The tunes from Epiros are often heavier in feeling.

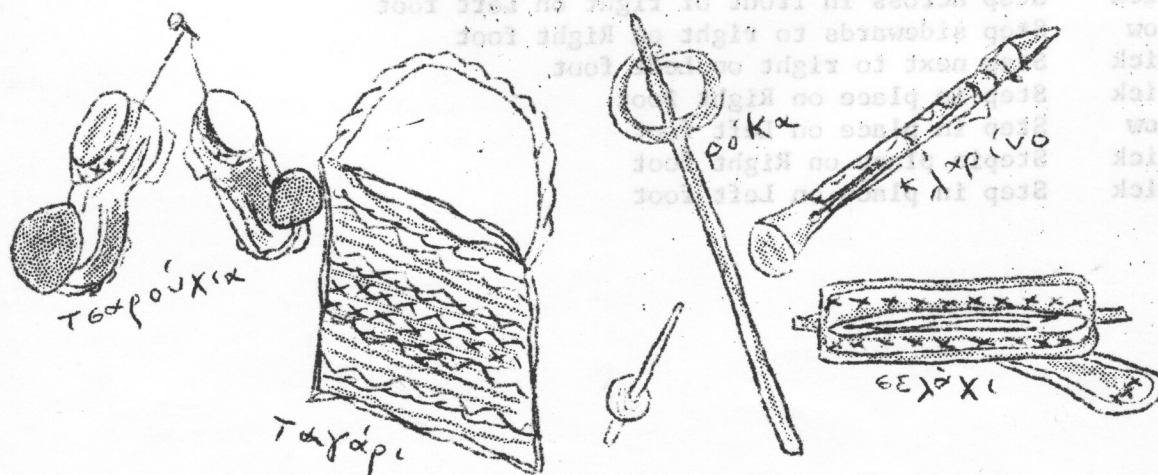
Demotika LP Discophon LPM 5
or any other Sta Tria tunes you like

Formation: A broken circle with hands joined at shoulder height, elbows bent and down. The hands should not be pushed forward into the circle, but should be comfortably back near the shoulders. If the men want to do some of the squatting variations, then they should form a separate line.

Characteristics: This is a dance for both men and women and when done so, the feeling is a gappy one-- all of the steps are moderate. When it is done as a man's dance, there can be many variations and the steps are larger and more masculine in character.

Meas.	cts.	2/4 or 3/4
I	1	Step sdwd to the R on the R ft.
	2	Step across in front of the R ft on the L ft.
II	1	Step sdwd to the R on the R ft.
	2	Touch L ft in front of R ft (or lift L ft across in front of R).
III	1	Step sdwd to the L on the L ft.
	2	Touch R ft in front of L ft (or lift R ft across in front of L).

There are many variations which can be done during this dance: A simple three step turn to the right on the first three counts of the dance; A quick pivot turn on the left foot can be done on the fifth count (III,1) of the dance; The men may do a squat walking step on the second count of the dance (I,1). Although it is not too common for everyone in the line to turn together, this is one of the few dances where it is sometimes done.



Notes by John Pappas