

Dance Selection

YEMINA, YEMINA (RIGHTWARD)

Israeli Couple Dance

This dance is one of the earliest Palestinian (pre-Israel) dances which was popular throughout the Diaspora, and also known under the name "Tel-Avivya." Originally the dance had but one figure. It now has two and the original figure discarded.

Record: ASP 3, Yemina, Yemina

Formation: Skating position, with arms crossed in back throughout the dance, and with joined hand over hips. Same foot pattern for both. Position may be assumed during the 2-measure introduction.

Chorus (Refrain figure):

Meas. 1: Move rightward: step R ft to R (1), step L ft behind R (2), step R ft to R (3), swing L foot across R (4).

Meas. 2: Reverse above leftward (Smola).

Meas. 3: Two step-hop steps forward, bending slightly body on first step.

Meas. 4: Move backward with two step-hop steps, lean somewhat backward.

Meas. 5-8: Repeat all of above once again.

Original only figure, now danced only by "old time" groups:

Meas. 1-8: Four step-hops forward and four backward, repeated.

Present Figure 1:

Meas. 1-3: Move forward with six step-hops.

Meas. 4: Stamp three times in place.

Meas. 5-8: Continue in a forward direction and repeat Meas. 1-4 of Fig. 1.

Repeat Chorus (Refrain) step again.

Figure 2: Meas. 1-4: As above Fig. 1: but turn in place clockwise, be sure to do the three stamps in line of direction.

Meas. 5-8: Reverse turning to counter-clockwise.

Continue repeating whole dance.

Yemina, yemina
Smola, smola
Lefanim, akhora
La, la, la, etc.

Rightward, rightward
Leftward, leftward
Forward and backward
La, la, la, etc.