



IKARIOTIKOS
(Ikaria Island)



The island of Ikaria, north of the Dodecanese Island group, lies just off the coast of western Turkey. Besides the usual dances associated with most Aegean islands - syrta, ballos, karslilamas, etc - Ikaria is especially known for a lively local dance known, logically, as Ikariotikos. Performance groups have made this dance known throughout many areas of Greece. The influence of the nearby Dodecanese islands is evident since the Ikariotikos is structurally a "sousta" type dance and the Sousta dance is the most characteristic of the Dodecanese dances. A "sousta" type dance is here defined as one in which there is a delay in the placement of weight onto the 2nd step (left foot) of measure 1.

Formation: open circle, shoulder hold
Meter: 2/4

MEAS

INTRO STA TRIA

- 1 Facing sl R of ctr: Step R fwd LOD (ct 1); Step L fwd across in front of R (2).
- 2 Step R fwd (1); Sl Bounce of R, swing L up & fwd (2).
- 3 Step L bk into place (1); Sl bounce on L, swing R up & fwd (2).

BASIC PATTERN

- 1 Low leap onto R (bend at knees) to right (bringing L knee towards R) (ct 1); Bouncing on R, swing L up & sl fwd (2)*Step L behind R (&).
- 2 Step & rock onto R (sl to right) (1); Rock onto L in place (2); Rock back onto R (3) [Knee tend to bend towards the supporting leg]
- 3 Facing sl R of ctr. Step L fwd across in front of R (1); Step R fwd (2); Step L fwd across in front of R (3).

VARIANT A

- 3 Step L fwd across in front of R (1); Slide step R next to L heel, with a sl pivot of L towards the left (2); Rock back onto the L, with a sl twist CW (&).

VARIANT B

- 2 Step & rock onto R (1); Jump onto L fwd across in front of R, bent at knee, sl crouch from waist, R raised off ground (2).
- 3 Stamp ball of R down, wgt balanced between R & L (1); Rock onto L, extending leg and body position up (2).

NOTE: General style is light and bouncy, weight usually on the balls of the feet.

NOTE, LEADER'S VARIANT: Meas 3: "Fall" into a crouch position, first leaping onto the left side of the L, then continuing down into a sitting position on the left leg from the knee down (1); Hold (2); Rise up onto L (&).