Ahava Ktzara

(Israel)

This dance was created in 1992 and is one of the first dances choreographed by Gadi Biton (see photo). Gadi is one of Israel's most popular and prolific choreographers, with well over 280 dances created through 2012.

Pronunciation: ah-hah-VAH ktsah-RAH Translation: A Brief Love

Music: 4/4 meter *Erica Goldman: Israel Dances,* Track 4 and 5

Formation: Couples facing CCW, W on M's R. Inside hands are joined in V-pos. M and W use the same ftwk throughout this dance.

Meas	4/4 meter	Pattern
2 meas		INTRODUCTION. No action. The first step of the dance is done *before* the lyrics of the song. The song begins on the *second* step of the dance.
	I.	SIDE-BY-SIDE.
1		Beg with R, two walking steps fwd (cts 1, 2); two more walking steps fwd, but crossing slightly, R in front of L and then L in front of R (cts 3, 4).
2		Sway on R to R (ct 1); sway on L to L (ct 2); drop handhold, and moving twd ctr, step R in front of L (ct 3); step L to L with a ½ pivot R (ct 4).
3		Complete the full turn to R with a step-together-step (R, L, R) to end facing CCW (cts 1-2); sway L (ct 3); sway R (ct 4).
4		Moving away from ctr, step L in front of R (ct 1); step R to R with a ½ pivot L (ct 2); complete the full turn to L with a step-together-step (L, R, L) to end facing CCW (cts 3-4). Rejoin inside hands.
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4. During last turn in meas 8, M makes ¼ turn and W makes ¾ turn to face each other with M's back to ctr.
	II.	PARTNERS FACING.
1		Sway on R to R (ct 1); sway on L to L (ct 2); step R in front of L with a rise onto the ball of the R ft, turning slightly to L so that R shldrs are adjacent and reaching with R arm above head (ct 3); pause (ct 4).
2		Step bkwd onto L and face ptr (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); step L in front of R (ct 3); step on R in place (ct 4).
3		Two steps L, R to make a full turn L (cts 1, 2); sway on L to L (ct 3); sway on R to R (ct 4).
4		Step L in front of R with a rise onto the ball of the L ft, turning slightly to R so that L shldrs are adjacent and reaching with arms above head (ct 1); pause (ct 2); step bkwd onto R and face ptr (ct 3); wide sway on L to L (ct 4).
5		Turn R (M ½ turn, W full turn) with two steps (R, L) to end facing ctr with W behind and slight to the R of M (cts 1, 2); step R to R (ct 3); step L in front of R (ct 4).

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6 Facing ctr, step-together-step (R, L, R) moving CCW (cts 1-2); step L in front of R (ct 3); step bkwd in place on R (ct 4).

7 Repeat meas 6 with opp ftwk and direction.

8 Full turn R with three steps (R, L, R) to end facing ctr (cts 1-3); step L in front of R (ct 4). During the turn M moves slightly bkwd (away from ctr) and W turns fwd (twd ctr) so they are now side by side and can take Varsouvienne pos (see figure below).

III. FACING CENTER IN VARSOUVIENNE.

Varsouvienne Position

1 Facing ctr and moving CCW, grapevine to R: R to R (ct 1), L behind R (ct 2), R to R (ct 3), L in front of R (ct 4).

2 Releasing R hand and using joined L hands, M turns W a full turn to R with two steps while taking two steps (R, L) to R (cts 1, 2); sway R to R (ct 3); sway L to L (ct 4). Take Varsouvienne pos.

3 Repeat meas 1.

4 Repeat meas 2, cts 1-2, *except* that M uses his two steps to step twd ctr and turn ½ to R to face W; rock bkwd onto R (ct 3); step fwd onto L (ct 4).

5 Two steps (R, L) fwd, pull by with joined L hands, M moving away from ctr and W moving twd ctr, passing L shldrs (cts 1, 2); step-together-step (R, L, R) continuing fwd (cts 3-4).

6 Turning ¼ to R, step on L to L (ct 1); step R to R while turning to face ptr (ct 2); step L fwd twd ptr (ct 3); brush and swing R fwd while raising the L arm high (ct 4).

7 Two steps (R, L) to meet ptr (cts 1, 2). With M's R hand on W's L waist, W's R hand on M's L waist, beg CW rotation with step-together-step R, L, R (cts 3-4).

8 Continue CW rotation using two steps (L, R) (ct 1, 2); step-together-step (L, R, L) with W making an extra ½ turn at the end to face the same direction as M, both facing ctr.

9-16 Repeat meas 1-16. Instead of facing ctr, release handhold, face CCW, and take V-pos.

IV. CHERKASSIYA TRANSITION

1 Facing CCW, step R fwd without moving L ft (ct 1); take wt back on L (ct 2); step R bkwd (ct 3); take wt back on L (ct 4) .

Sequence: Fig I, Fig II, Fig III, Fig IV 3 times. Ending: Fig I, meas 1, meas 2 cts 1-2, followed by CW spin into the ctr and end facing ctr.

Presented by Erica Goldman

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Lyrics

Mah at menasah lomar, lo echpat li mah, me'uchar kol kach achshav ve'ein kan ahavah. Mabatim nifgashim, ve'anachnu shnei zarim.	What are you trying to say, I don't care what, it's quite late now and there's no love here. Stares meet, and we're two strangers.
At hayit yafah kol kach az bamesibah, ba'einaich hashtuyot hits'at li ahavah, ha'orot amumim, ve'anachnu kvar ozvim.	You were so pretty back then at the party, in your drunken eyes you offered me love, the lights are dim, and we're already leaving.
Ruach bas'derah, at kan letsidi, laylah ya'avor beveitech o beveiti, uvanegi'ah yesh bah gam tikvah she'at ha'achat shechipasti bedarki.	A wind in the tree lane, you're here by my side, the night will pass in your house or mine, and in its touch there's hope in it too that you're the one I searched for on my path.
Aval ze sipur nosaf shel ahavah ktsarah, veha'esh sheba'arah kim'at miyad kavtah. Bli ke'ev, bli dma'ot, kan dracheinu nifradot.	But that's an extra story of a short love, and the fire that burned almost immediately burnt out. Without pain, tears, here our ways separate.
Shuv lama'agal bo ani lachud, ben lokeach bat veroked itah rikud, shuv mehatchalah delet tipatach uchshe'ekanes, leheichan ani nichnas?	Again to the circle that I'm captured in, a son takes a daughter and dances a dance with her, again from the beginning the door will open and when I will go in, where am I going to?
Bli ke'ev, bli dma'ot kan dracheinu nifradot. (x3)	Without pain, tears, here our ways separate. (x3)