

AGHCHEEKNEROO PAR
(Armenia)

Pronunciation: ahg-cheek-neh-ROO

This dance was learned by Tom Bozigian at the Sayat Nova State Choreographic School, in Yerevan. Director Teresa Grekoryan, merited artist, Soviet Union; Norig Khachatryan, ballet maestro. The music was written recently by composer-director Khachatur Avetisyan, now director of the Armenian State Song and Dance Ensemble. This dance was presented by Tom Bozigian to the 3rd level class of the Sayat Nova Choreographic School, which presented the dance at the final school recital in May of 1974.

Record: GT 2001-A, band 3. 6/4 meter.

Formation: Women in closed circle. R arm above head, hand in "Y" pos, L hand on waist of L neighbor, body facing diag L of LOD.

Meas
4

PATTERN

Introduction

FIG I

- 1 R to R (cts 1,2,3). L over R (cts 4,5,6).
2 R to R in plié (cts 1,2). Straight back on L, L heel raised (ct 3).
Step R beside L, heel raised (cts 4-6).
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 except on ct 6 of meas 2, step R to R, heel raised.

FIG II

- 1 Step L across R in plié as eyes follow hand (cts 1-2). R to R, heel raised (ct 3). Repeat cts 1-2 (cts 4-5). Repeat ct 3 (ct 6).
NOTE: R hand makes 2 inward circles in "Y" pos.
2 Repeat cts 1-5, pivot on L to face RLOD, R arm ends twd RLOD (ct 6).

FIG III

- 1 Backing in LOD, take 5 small steps on 1/2 toe beginning with R (cts 1-5).
Step on whole L ft (ct 6).
2 Rock bkwd on R (cts 1-3). Rock fwd on L (cts 4-6)

FIG IV

- 1-4 Moving to outside of circle to make one small individual CCW circle, step R fwd, as hands are moved to R, about chest level (cts 1,2). Continue in circle, step L as arms move to L (ct 3). Step R as arms move to R (ct 4). Plié on L fwd as hands, in "Y" pos, complete inward turn (ct 5). Hold (ct 6). Do FIG IV - 4 times in all.

FIG V

- 1 Step bkwd on R to face LOD as L arm is raised along body straight overhead, palm in, hand in "Y" pos, and at the same time R arm moves straight down in back, palm out. Head facing twd ctr of circle (cts 1,2). Step L,R,L, turning in place CCW, L palm ends facing out (cts 3-5). Plié R in place, as R arm raises to chest height, palm in and L hand is lowered to waist height, palm in (ct 6).
2 Repeat cts 1-6 with opp ftwk and direction.

AGHCHEEKNEROO PAR (continued)

- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2, but on 6th ct of meas 4, arms return to pos as in beginning of dance.
 1-16 Repeat FIG I thru V, one more time.

TRANSITION VI

- 1 Pivot 1/2 revolution CCW, beginning on L ft as hands (R above L) cross in front of chest (ct &). Complete revolution on both ft, L ending in front of R (cts 1-6).
 2 Deep plié, R knee to floor, L ft in front, hands twd L, chest height (cts 1-6) (R instep is on floor).

FIG VII There is only arm action in FIG VII.

Hands in "Y" pos throughout.

- 1 Arms swing to R, as hands wave once (cts 1-3). Arms swing to L, as hands wave once (cts 4-6).
 2 Arms swing to R and make 1 CCW circle in front of body (cts 1-6).
 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 in opp direction.
 5 Arms do 2 revolutions around each other with an inward motion (CCW) in front of chest, ending R arm up, bent at elbow, L fingers touching R elbow (cts 1-6).
 6 Repeat meas 5 with opp movements.
 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.

FIG VIII Hands in "Y" pos throughout.

- 1 Facing diag RLOD, rise to standing pos, L in front of R, wt on L ft, ball of R ft behind. Arms remain straight -- movement is from wrists only. R arm raises slightly above head level, wrist bends down, at same time L is lowered below chest level, wrist bends up (cts 1-3). Repeat cts 1-3 with opp hand motions (cts 4-6).
 2 Repeat hands of cts 1-3 of meas 1 (Fig VIII) in two cts (cts 1,2). Repeat hands of cts 4-6 in one ct (ct 3). Repeat hands of cts 1-3 of meas 1 exactly (cts 4-6).
 3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2 with opp handwork.

FIG IX

- 1 Step R to R on 1/2 toe as hands are raised above head, little finger hold (cts 1-3). Cross L over R in plié as arms, joined, make a 3/4 circle swinging R to end L (cts 4-6). Eyes follow hand movements.
 2-4 Repeat meas 1 three more times.
 1-16 Repeat FIG I through FIG V one more time, except in FIG V, meas 4, L hand is placed on neighbor's L waist, as R ft moves on floor in an arc to LOD and body turns to face LOD, R arm and head turning to outside of circle.

Presented by Tom Bozigian
 Dance notes by Avis Tarvin