

## Martakan Lorke

(Armenia)

Translation: "Martakan" = battle, "Lorke" means a rocking up and down movement.

Source: Traditional men's dance from Van, a town in Vaspourakan, east of Van Lake in east Turkey (former West Armenia). Taught by Artushat Karapetian, Yerevan.

Pronunciation:

Music: "Hayastan-Armenian Dances"

2/4 and 6/8 meter

Formation: Lines, hands joined, arms in "V" position, facing center.

Style: Strong movements.

Meas   Cts

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. None or wait 12 meas.

FIGURE I. (2/4 meter)

- |       |     |                                                                                                                                   |
|-------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | 1   | Place L slightly fwd diag L, L ft turned out, both knees bent.                                                                    |
|       | 2   | Heel bounce on both ft, knees stretched.                                                                                          |
|       | &   | Heel bounce on both ft, knees stretched.                                                                                          |
| 2     | 1   | Bend both knees                                                                                                                   |
|       | 2   | Close L beside R, ft parallel in a closed pos, knees stretched.                                                                   |
| 3     | 1   | Chug fwd on L diag to L, L knee bent, while R ft is sharply lifted beside L knee, the torso leaning fwd.                          |
|       | 2   | Step on R, knee bent.                                                                                                             |
| 4     |     | Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk and direction.                                                                                        |
| 5     |     | Repeat meas 3.                                                                                                                    |
| 6     |     | Repeat meas 4, end facing LOD.                                                                                                    |
| 7     | 1   | Step on R sdwd to R, R knee bent, ball of L ft stays on floor, torso leaning bkwd, arms coming to a "Debka pos" (L hand on back). |
|       | 2   | Step on L across R, torso coming to an erect pos.                                                                                 |
| 8     | 1-2 | Repeat meas 7, cts 1-2.                                                                                                           |
|       | ♩   | Small hop on L.                                                                                                                   |
| 9     | 1 ♩ | Come down on L, while R ft touches beside L, torso leaning fwd.                                                                   |
|       | & ♩ | Step on R diag to R, moving LOD, knee bent.                                                                                       |
|       | 2 ♩ | Step on L diag to L, moving LOD, knee bent.                                                                                       |
|       | ♩   | Small hop on L.                                                                                                                   |
| 10-11 |     | Repeat meas 9 twice.                                                                                                              |
| 12    | 1   | Step on R, torso coming to an erect pos, turning 1/4 CCW to face ctr.                                                             |
|       | 2   | Hop on R, L ft at R calf level, arms coming back to "V" pos.                                                                      |


FIGURE II.

At the end of the previous meas, a slight hop on R (♩).

- |      |   |                                                                 |
|------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1    | 1 | Touch L beside R, torso leaning fwd.                            |
|      | & | Accented step on L to L, L knee bent.                           |
|      | 2 | Step on R in place, R knee bent.                                |
| 2    | 1 | Touch L heel fwd to floor (knee stretched), torso leaning bkwd. |
|      | 2 | Step on L beside R, both knees bent, torso leaning fwd.         |
| 3-12 |   | Repeat Fig I, meas 3-12.                                        |

Martakan Lorke - continued

6/8 METER.

Use the same steps, 1 ct now stands for .

Alternate the two figures as directed by the first dancer of each line.

Description written by Tineke van Geel  
Presented by Tineke van Geel