

HEEIA  
(Hey-ey-ee-ah)  
(Hawaii)

Ancient Hawaiian Canoe Dance.

Source: V. F. Beliajus

Record: Folkraft 1123B

Formation: Ptrs facing, seated on floor with legs crossed; stick in R hd; L hd with palm up, in front of body.

Stick: Bamboo stick (puili) about 18 inches long, closely spliced at one end, the "tip" for about 6 inches. The stick is held by the solid end, the "butt."

Note: The music and dance are divided into three parts in the following sequence: (1) Vamp, (2) Figure, and (3) Chorus, Ea-Ea (Ey-Ah-Eh-Ah). Each part consists of 2 meas (8 cts) of music.

Vamp: Hit palm of L hd over L side of body twice quickly (cts 1,2);  
(Ea-Ea) hit palm of L hd in front of body once slowly (cts 3,4).

Figures:

I. HANDS

This is an introductory figure and the entire 12 meas are spent undulating the arms, indicating action of water. Sticks on floor between and in front of dancers, hds down at sides. Undulate hands continuously as arms are raised sdward overhead, then lowered in front twd stick. Finish with stick in R hd at end of 8th ct.

II. SHOULDERS

Vamp.

Hit own shoulders alternately starting with R shoulder on 8 cts.

Chorus.

III. PADDLING

Vamp.

Hold "butt" end of stick with both hds, paddle twice to own R, and twice to L, for 8 cts.

Chorus.

IV. SHOULDER STICK

Vamp.

Hit own R shoulder with stick (ct 1), ptr's stick (ct 2), own L shoulder (ct 3), ptr's stick (ct 4). Repeat entire pattern (cts 1-4).

Chorus.

HEEIA (continued)

#### V. ROWING

Vamp.

Hold stick, hd at each end, horizontally in front of and close to chest. Describe an outward circle with stick, body following the movement, imitating "rowing" a boat.(cts 1-4).

Chorus.

#### VI. OVERHEAD

Vamp.

Hold stick overhead twd R side, palms of hds pressing against ends of stick. Move stick overhead from R side to L side (cts 1,2) and from L to R side (cts 3,4). Repeat entire pattern (cts 1-4).

#### VII. CHURNING

Vamp.

Hold middle of stick with one hd. Describe a small circle rapidly as if churning water, then hit the floor with "butt" end of stick, first to R side then to L as if trying to spear a fish (cts 1-4). Repeat entire pattern (cts 1-4).

#### VIII. SPEARING

Vamp.

Hold middle of stick with one hd. Hit floor with "butt" end of stick, "stab fish," alternately from R to L for 8 cts.

Chorus.

#### IX. EXCHANGE

Vamp.

Throw own stick to ptr and catch ptr's stick in L hd; two exchanges per meas, four in all.

#### X. WAVE

Vamp.

Hold stick in R hd over to L side with spliced tip down. Wave stick from L to R side twice (cts 1-4). Throw stick to ptr and catch ptr's stick (cts 1-4).

#### XI. PADDLING

Vamp.

Repeat Figure III, Paddling.

Chorus.

#### XII. WAVE

Vamp.

Repeat Figure X, Wave, receiving own stick.

Chorus.

Music retards, last Ea-Ea can be shortened. Place stick on floor in front, as in beginning of dance. Stretch arms fwd, place hd on top of hd with palms down, and bow with head between arms.

Presented by Vyts Beliajus

FOLK DANCE CAMP - 1971