

Benof Yaldut

(Israel)

This dance was choreographed in 2000 by Eli Ronen and Israel Shiker. The song was written and is sung by Shlomo Artzi, one of Israel's popular modern singer-songwriters. Choreographing a dance to a song by Shlomo Artzi will almost guarantee the dance will be popular wherever Israeli dances are done.

Pronunciation: beh-NOHF yahl-DOOT Translation: The Vision of Childhood
 Music: 4/4 meter *Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2011*
 Erica Goldman - Israeli Folk Dances CD, Track 2
 Formation: Circle of dancers facing ctr.
 Steps & Styling: Refer to "Steps Used in Israeli Dancing."

Meas 4/4 meter Pattern

INTRODUCTION

I. TRAVELING CCW

- 1 Grapevine step moving CCW (cts 1-4).
- 2 Full turn R in two steps, R, L (cts 1-2); facing and moving CCW, cha-cha-cha step beg R (cts 3,&,4).
- 3 Step L fwd (ct 1); facing ctr step R to R (ct 2); step L behind R (ct 3); step R to R (ct 4).
- 4 Step L in front of R to face CCW (ct 1); swing R across in front of L while pivoting on L to face slightly CW (ct 2); repeat cts 1-2 with opp ftwk (cts 3-4).
- 5 Cherkassiya L with L shldr to ctr (cts 1-4).
- 6 Facing and moving CCW, two steps fwd, L-R (cts 1-2); step L behind R (ct 3); step R to R (ct &); step L in front of R and end facing ctr (ct 4).
- 7 Facing diag R, Box Step beg with leap onto R (cts 1-4).
- 8 Repeat meas 7.

II TURN LEFT AND MOVE IN

- 1 Sway R (ct 1); full turn L using three steps, L-R-L (cts 2-4).
- 2 Cha-cha-cha step to ctr beg R (cts 1,&,2); with L shldr to ctr, step L to L twd ctr (ct 3); step R behind L (ct 4).
- 3 Cha-cha-cha step to ctr beg L (cts 1,&,2); step fwd R, bringing bent arms up in front (ct 3); step back in place on L (ct 4); bring arms down to sides.

Benof Yaldut — continued

- 4 Two full turns with four steps, R-L-R-L, moving R to end on the original line of the circle (cts 1-4).
- 5 Grapevine moving CCW starting R to R, L crossing in front (cts 1-4).
- 6 Step R to R (ct 1); touch L next to R and snap fingers high and to R (ct 2); repeat cts 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction (cts 3-4).
- 7 Repeat meas 1.
- 8 Cherkassiya R facing ctr crossing arms in front at the wrists, with palms up (ct 1) and move arms in a horizontal arc outward (cts 2-4).

Sequence:

Fig I twice; Fig II twice

Fig I twice; Fig II until the end of the music.

Presented by Erica Goldman

Lyrics

Benof habatim hayeshanim
 Asher hayu biymey yaldut
 Chalfu harbei shanim
 Chalfu harbei shanim
 Nof habatim kvar mitprorer
 Vekirotav ne'elamim
 Chalfu harbei shanim
 Chalfu harbei shanim

The scenery of the old houses
 That were there in childhood
 Many years passed
 Many years passed
 The houses are falling apart
 And their walls disappear
 Many years passed
 Many years passed

CHORUS

Be gan ha'eden shel yaldut
 Asher haya poreach
 Hayiti chelek me'anof
 Hayom ani oreach

CHORUS:

In the heaven of childhood
 That was blooming
 I was part of the scenery
 Today I am only a visitor

Reka haetzim hamitkalfim
 Asher hayu tzili biymey yaldut
 Kvar nishberu ha'anafim
 Kaftza zikna pitom
 Ani holech veat iti
 Lean kulam ne'elamim
 Kaftza zikna pitom
 Eize yom hayom

The line of the peeling trees
 That were my shadow in my childhood
 The branches are broken
 Suddenly they became old
 I am walking with you
 where is everybody disappearing to
 Everything became so old
 What a day today

Remember that the “ch” in Hebrew is pronounced like a hard “H” as if you were clearing your throat.

For example, “Chalfu harbei shanim” is pronounced “*Hahl*-foo har-bey shah-neem.”