

VLACHA
(Naxos)

The dance *Vlacha* is performed throughout the island of Naxos in the central Cyclades of the Aegean Sea during the pre Lenten Carnival season. The dance varies from village to village the variant described below has motifs from the *Vlacha* of Apiranthos and Komiaki.

Formation: open circle, shoulder hold

Meter: 2/4

MEAS

PART A

- 1 Facing sl R of ctr: Step R fwd LOD (ct 1); Step L fwd in front of R (2).
- 2 Step R fwd (1); Swing or touch L in front of R (2).
- 3 Step L bk in place (1); Touch L next to or sl in front of R (2).

PART B

- 1 Step R fwd (1); Hopping on R , swing L up and fwd (2), Step L sl in front of R (&).
- 2 Step R fwd (1); Swing L up and the around behind R (2).
- 3 Step L sl behind R (1); Touch or sl lift L next to R (2).

PART C

- 1 Quick step R fwd (1), quick step L in front of R (&): Quick step R fwd (2), Quick step L in front of R (&).
- 2 Step R fwd (1); Pivoting to face sl L of ctr, swing L up and the sl behind R (2).
- 3 Quick step L sl behind R (1), Quick step R bk RLOD (&); Step L sl behind R (2).

NOTE The dance alternates A,B,A,B,...C. Part C starts by substituting Meas 3, cts &2 for the equivalent during the last time performing Part B.

In some villages *Vlacha* consists only of alternating Parts A and B, in others only Parts A and C, in only a few with all three. In some villages it alternates Part A with only Meas 1 of Part C substituting for Meas 1 Part B.

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