# AMOLITI GAIDA
Aegean Macedonia

This dance is closely related to other dances of south central Macedonia, Albania, and Northern Greece and conforms to the typical three-measure "Beranče" rhythmic and dance pattern. Often dances from the same village share very similar patterns, rhythms and melodies. In this case, Amoliti Gaida is very similar a shorter, three measure dance, Leventikos. Amoliti Gaida can be thought of as an extended version Leventikos, which moves only to the right, whereas Amoliti Gaida repeats the entire dance, with the same footwork, back to the left.

Source: As learned by Tom Deering from Martin Koenig who learned it from Simos Konstandinou, from the village of Alona, Florina, Greek Macedonia.

Rhythm: 12/16 counted: Slow, Quick, Quick, Slow, Quick
**1** 2 3 **4** 5
1 & ah 2 & 3 & 4 & ah 5 &

Recording: BALKAN ARTS - BA 705 (7" 33rpm)

Formation: Mixed lines, hands held up in "W" position. The leader on the right. The dance starts to the right with the right foot free.

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| Meas | Ct | PATTERN |
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| 1-2 | | Introduction |
| | | **BASIC PATTERN** |
| 1 | **1** | Facing center and moving R, **Bounce** on L lifting R foot slightly then moving R to R close to ground |
| | 2 | **Bounce** again on L continuing to move R foot and turning to face R |
| | 3 | **Step** forward onto R |
| | **4** | **Step** forward onto L, slightly behind R |
| | 5 | **Step** forward onto R |
| 2 | **1** | **Step** forward onto L |
| | 2 | **Bounce** on L moving R foot close past L |
| | 3 | **Step** forward onto R |
| | **4** | Turning to face center **Step** forward onto L |
| | 5 | **Step** back onto R |
| 3 | **1** | **Bounce** on R beginning to swing L close to ground around to behind R |
| | 2 | **Bounce** again on R continuing to move L foot |
| | 3 | **Step** back onto L |
| | **4** | **Step** back onto R |
| | 5 | Turning to face L **Step** forward onto L |
| 4-5 | | REPEAT measures 1-2 with <u>same</u> footwork but facing and travelling left. |
| 6 | **1**-3 | REPEAT measure 3 counts 1-3 |
| | **4** | **Step** to R onto R |
| | 5 | **Step** forward onto L crossing in front of R in preparation for the beginning |
| | | **VARIATIONS - Can be used any time at the dancer's discretion** |
| 1, 4 | **4** | With a small **Skip**, tuck the L foot closely up behind R |
| 2, 5 | **1** | Keep some weight on R then **Skip** forward onto L |
| | 2 | **Hop** on L moving R foot close past L |
| 2 | **4** | Turning to face center, with L foot slight forward, **Bounce** on both feet, weight mostly on R |
| 3 | **4** | **Bounce** on both feet with R tucked up behind L, weight mostly on L |

Dance Description by Tom Deering
Presented by Tom Deering