

Prayer of the Mothers

Choreographer: Pablo Scornik (Argentina)

Music: Yael Deckelbaum (Israel)

I learned this dance from Sergio Malqui (Pablo Scornik's partner) in Mexico City in 2017. Although Pablo Scornik is listed as an Israeli Choreographer, he choreographed this dance as a gift to the sacred circle dance community.

Prayer of the Mothers is danced in a closed circle mostly with a "W" hand hold.

Part One

Holding hands in a "W" position, step Rt foot into the circle (1) touch Lt foot ahead of Rt (2), continue moving into the centre with Lt (3), Rt (1/2) and Lt (4), step Rt foot into centre (5), step back on Lt foot (6), release hand hold and turn over Rt shoulder to face outside of the circle with 2 steps (Rt and Lt) (7 & 8).

Repeat the above 8 counts moving out of the circle and ending up facing centre. (9 - 16).

Part Two

Sway to the right with the Rt foot (1), step Lt foot in place (2) cross Rt foot over Lt foot and move to the left with Rt step (3), Lt step (1/2), Rt step (4). Repeat counts 1 - 4 with opposite foot work and direction. (5 - 8). Rock back on Rt foot while swinging arms down to a "V" position (9), step Lt foot in place (10), while continuously moving arms forwards and upwards, move towards the centre of the circle with Rt (11), Lt (1/2), Rt (12), rock forward on Lt foot while lifting arms overhead, (13), step back on Rt foot (14), and move backwards out of the centre of the circle with Lt (15), Rt (1/2), Lt (16) while bringing arms back to a "V" position.

**Pablo wants the hands to make a side circle to the right on counts 1 and 2, and a side circle to the left on counts 5 and 6. This will produce the infinity symbol. Sergio (who I learned this dance from) thinks this is somewhat silly.

Bridge

Leaving arms in the "V" Position, sway to the right with the Rt foot (1), sway to the left with the Lt foot (2), sway behind with Rt foot (3), step Lt foot in place (4).

Order of dance

Part One, Part Two, Bridge,

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Part One, The first 10 counts of Part Two then close feet and lift arms forward and upwards for four counts.

Part One, Part Two, Bridge

Repeat Part One, and Part Two four more times.

Part One, The first 10 counts of Part Two, For the remaining four counts, Step Rt into circle (1) step Lt to join right (2) pause feet (3 & 4). At the same time raise arms upwards.

Dance notes by Kathleen Mazurek

The song "Prayer of the Mothers", was born as a result of an alliance made between singer-songwriter Yael Deckelbaum, and a group of courageous women, leading the movement of "Women Wage Peace".

On October 4, 2016, Jewish and Arab women began with the joint "March of Hope" project. Thousands of women marched from the north of Israel to Jerusalem in a call for peace. A call that reached it's peak on October 19th, in a march of at least 4,000 women half of them Palestinian, and Half Israeli, in Qasr el Yahud (on the northern Dead Sea), in a joint prayer for peace.

The very same evening 15,000 women protested in front of the prime ministers house in Jerusalem.



Prayer of the Mothers - English translation

A whisper of ocean wind
Is blowing from far away
And laundry is flapping
To the shadow of the wall

Between the sky and the land
There are people who want to live in peace
Don't give up, keep dreaming
Of peace and prosperity

When will the walls of fear melt
When will I return from exile
And my gates will open
To what is truly good

Come on Sleep! - Another sunrise
Come on Sleep - And morning is here
We will slaughter - A mother sends
A pigeon for you - Along with a prayer
Fly pigeon, Don't believe - Her child to school
We will laugh with the child - to the sound
So that he may sleep - of war

The walls of fear will some day melt
And I will return from exile
My gates shall open
To what is truly good

from the north to the south
from the west to the east
hear the prayer of the mothers
bring them peace
bring them peace
Light is rising from the east to the prayer of the mothers for peace