



Επιστήμη του Χορού  
Τόμος 1, 2007

Ηλεκτρονικό Περιοδικό  
Electronic Journal

---

Science of Dance  
Volume 1, 2007

[www.elepex.gr](http://www.elepex.gr)

ISSN 1790-7527

---

### **Womanly Dances in the Hellenic Antiquity**

**Kapoutsi P., Albanidis E., Serbezis V., Goulimaris D.**

D.P.E.S.S., Democritus University of Thrace

#### **Abstract**

The purpose of this study is to collect and analyze the data regarding the relation between woman and dance during the Greek antiquity. Dance was an integral component of ancient Greek woman's life. It was associated with the worship of many gods and goddesses, the festivities devoted to which, constituted a first class opportunity for the ancient Greek woman to escape at least for a little while from her every day's pace of life, associating at the same time socially with other people. Woman was dancing alone (e.x. the dances of peplophoroi women in honour of goddess Demeter, or the female pyrrhiche in honour of goddess Athena), with other women, and at dances in which both sexes took part. Women of doubtful reputation were performing complex acrobatics together with dancing, in order to amuse the attendees at the symposia. Woman was dancing during matrimonial ceremonies (nuptial dances), as well as during mourning ceremonies.

Key words: woman, ancient Greek woman, dance, orchesis.