

**Dance Inquiries in Rebetiko.
A Review**

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Abstract

The term rebetiko refers to a system of practices in which music, poetry and dance function as a whole. Rebetiko has attracted the interest both in terms of practice and study since its appearance. This continuous presence gave the stimulus for the present study. The aim of the paper is to study the historical course of rebetiko from the initial stages of its appearance till now in order to reveal its historical, social and music-dance context. Data were collected through archival research, classified in relation to historical periods and elaborated with analytical tools from the historical-social method. It is showed that, as a creation, rebetiko is related to the integration of the lower social populace inside the borders of the Greek city during the late 19th, early 20th century. Following this, rebetiko came to express a wide part, even the whole population for some time. Afterwards, rebetiko fell in decline and in standardization as the context changed dramatically. However, in recent years, it flourished once more with new bands and places (rempetika stekia) playing an important role to this new spread. Thus, rebetiko became popular again both in terms of practice and study. Dances that constitute its repertoire are considered as the most representative of modern Greeks and are dominant in the recent dancing preference.

Keywords: music of rebetes, dance of rebetes, historical-social course