

BACKGROUND

“Gerakina” is one of the most popular songs in Greece and a very well-known song outside of Greece. It is performed by choral and instrumental groups all over the world and used in dances as well. The song tells of a young woman named Gerakina who went to a well to draw water. The lyric “drun-a-drun-a-drun” depicts the sound of her jingling bracelets.

The complete story is rather unfortunate, but the more tragic verses are not included in this arrangement. As the full lyrics are known, Gerakina fell into the well, screaming loudly. All the townspeople ran to the well and a young man jumped in to save her, hoping she would marry him if he did. Sadly, both perished.

The town of Negrita is the supposed place where this event happened and they commemorate the tragedy with a Gerakina Festival each year at Easter.

PRONUNCIATION/TRANSLATION

Kinise i Gerakina ya nero krio na feri
Kee-nee-seh ee Yeh-rah-kee-nah yah neh-roh kree-oh nah feh-ree
 (Gerakina went to the well to draw cold water.)

Drun-a-drun-a-drun
Droon-ah-droon-ah-droon
 (Ting-a-ling-a-ling)

Ta vrachiolia tis vrodon
Tah vrah-sheeh-eech tees vroh-doon
 (is the sound of her bracelets.)

Note: A rolled or flipped “r” is preferred.

PERCUSSION SUGGESTIONS

A dombek (“goblet drum”) or a Greek drum called a toubeleki (a hand drum) could enhance the strong beats of each measure with some simple ad lib by the player. Any small hand drum will suffice. Consider also adding finger cymbals on beats 1, 4, and 6 every other measure or so. A light tambourine might be played on beat 1 with finger cymbals on 4 and 6 as another consideration, too. Listen to examples of this piece performed online and create a simple percussion pattern to enhance your performance.

GERAKINA

for 3-part mixed voices and piano
with optional percussion and PianoTrax*

Greek Folk Song
Arranged by GREG GILPIN

With spirit and fun (♩ = ca. 126-132)

PIANO

mf *decresc.*

The piano introduction consists of two staves in 7/8 time, key of D major. The right hand plays a rhythmic melody of eighth notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment of chords. The dynamics start at mezzo-forte (mf) and gradually decrease (decresc.) towards the end of the introduction.

4 PARTS I & II (*unison*) 5 *mp*

mp

Ki - ni - se

Measures 4 and 5 show the vocal entry for Parts I and II in unison. The vocal line starts on a whole note 'Ki' and continues with 'ni - se' over two measures. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the introduction. The dynamic is mezzo-piano (mp).

7

i - Ge - ra - ki - na - ya ne -

Measures 6 and 7 continue the vocal line. The vocal line has a melodic contour that rises and then falls. The piano accompaniment remains consistent. The dynamic is mezzo-piano (mp).

* Also available for 2-part (50232).

PianoTrax 15 accompaniment CD available (49869). Visit alfred.com for digital scores and audio.

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To purchase a full-length performance recording of this piece, go to alfred.com/downloads

10

ro _____ kri - o na fe - ri. Drun - a -

13

p drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. Ta vra - chio - lia tis vro -

16

dun. Ta vra - chio - lia tis vro - dun. Drun - a - drun - a -

19

drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun.

24

22

PART I

mf

Ki - ni -

PART II

mf

Ki ni -

PART III

mf

Ki - ni

cresc.

mf

25

se

Ge - ra - ki - na

se

i Ge - ra - ki - na

se

i Ge - ra - ki - na

28

ya ne - ro kri - o na

ya ne - ro kri o na

ya ne - ro kri - o na

31

fe - ri. Drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. Ta - vra -

fe ri. Drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. Ta - vra -

fe ri. Drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. Ta - vra -

34

chio - lia tis vro - dun. Ta__ vra - chio - lia tis vro -

chio - lia tis vro - dun. Ta__ vra - chio - lia tis vro -

chio - lia tis vro - dun. Ta vra - chio - lia tis vro -

37

dun. Drun - a - drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. ____

dun. Drun - a - drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. ____

dun. Drun - a - drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. ____

40

Musical score for measures 40-43. Measures 40-42 are rests for all parts. Measure 43 features a piano accompaniment with a *cresc.* marking. The piano part consists of a melody in the right hand and chords in the left hand. The key signature changes from one sharp to two flats.

43

45

Musical score for measures 43-45. Measures 43-44 are rests for all parts. Measure 45 features vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are marked *f* and have the lyrics "Ki - ni -". The piano accompaniment is marked *f* and consists of a melody in the right hand and chords in the left hand. The key signature is two flats.

46

se i Ge - ra - ki - na

se i Ge - ra - ki na

se i Ge - ra - ki - na

49

ya ne - ro kri - o na

ya ne - ro kri - o na

ya ne - ro kri - o na

53

52

fe - ri. Drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. Ta - vra -

fe - ri. Drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a - drun. Ta - vra -

fe - ri. Drun, drun, drun, drun - a - drun.

mf

mf

mf

mf

55

chio - lia tis vro - dun. Ta - vra - chio - lia tis vro -

chio - lia tis vro - dun. Ta - vra - chio - lia tis vro -

Drun, drun, drun, drun - a - drun. Drun, drun, drun,

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

58

dun. Drun - a - drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a ...

dun. Drun - a - drun - a - drun - a - drun, drun - a ...

drun - a - drun. Drun - a - drun, drun - a ...

61

f
drun!

f
drun!

f
drun!