Spring 5-2008

Belly Dance: A Cultural and Historical Introduction and Lecture & Live Dancing! Program

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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BELLY DANCE
A Cultural and Historical Introduction
Lecture & Live Dancing!
With special guests
NAYA’S TRANCE BELLY DANCE

Monday, May 5th at 7:30 PM
Russell Hall, Main Stage, USM Gorham
Belly Dance Program: May 5, 08

1. Welcome & Introduction by Jessica Jane Means, Artistic Director of Naya’s Trance Belly Dance

2. “Aziza”
   Dancers: Andrea, Cara & Kimberly
   Artist: Hossam Ramzy  Choreographer: Serena
   Born in Cairo and known as “The Sultan of Swing” Hossam Ramzy’s Aziza is a classic! This dance was choreographed by the legendary American dancer Serena nearly 30 years ago and has been passed on to Naya’s Trance from local legend Josie Conte who danced with Serena in the 1980’s.

3. An Introduction to Arabic Folk Dance: Jessica
   Audience Participation: Learn a Debke!

4. Beledi
   Dancers: Cara & Jessica
   Artist & song title unknown.  Choreographer: Mohamed Shahin

5. Introduction to the Turkish Kar$ilama: Kimberly
   Audience Participation: Learn the Kar$ilama Step

6. Kar$ilama
   Dancers: Cara, Jessica & Kimberly
   Song: 9/8  Artist: Panja  Choreographer: Mezdulene

7. “Elimon Ektim Tasa”
   Dancer: Cara  Improvisation  Artist: Okbari
   Finger cymbals are an integral part of belly dance. The Turkish word for these little cymbals is “zill”, which translates at little “bells.” Known as “sagat” in Egypt, a dancer uses fingers cymbals to compliment or contrast the rhythms of the doumbek and tabla drums. Tonight, Cara accompanies a recording from Okbari. Okbari is a local favorite for traditional Turkish, Anatolian, and Armenian folk music.

8. Introduction to Egyptian Cabaret and the Progression of Belly dance in America: Andrea
   Audience Participation: Get Ready to Shimmy!

9. Raqs Sharqi
   Dancer: Jessica  Improvisation
   Song: “El Kalam Ala Meen”  Artist: Saad ElSoghayar

10. “Cha-Cha Pharonic”
    Dancer: Andrea  Improvisation
    Artist: Mohammed el-Bakkar
    If you listen carefully you’ll pick up hints of traditional Greek Folkloric music. Andrea dances the piece in traditional full color gypsy attire.

11. “Ali’s Nay”
    Dancer: Cara  Improvisation
    Artist: Feat. Ihsan Al-Mounzer
    This piece features the sound of a Nay which is an Arabic Flute associated with snake charming. In this enchanting piece Cara will charm you with her fluid snake like movements.

12. Raqs Assaya
    Dancer: Jessica  Improvisation
    Song Title: “Shashkin”  Artist: Omar Faruk Tekbilek
    Shashkin is a great example of a S aidi rhythm. This rhythm is often used with Raqs Assaya (Egyptian Cane Dance). Tonight Jessica performs in a historic costume of ghawazee coat coat and harem pants.

13. “Zeina”
    Dancer: Kimberly  Improvisation
    Artist: Mohamed Abdel Wahab
    Zeina is an Egyptian classic! Kimberly dances to it using fans made of peacock feathers.

14. “Sahra Saidi”
    Dancers: Andrea & Cara  Improvisation
    Artist: Gamal Gommaa
    A classic cabaret routine will often feature a playful stand-off between a dancer and her drummer; each one trying to out-do the other in a friendly call and response. Here, dancers embody the improvisational nature of belly dance in a playful duet.

15. “Habibi Ya Eini”
    Dancers, Andrea, Cara, Jessica & Kimberly
    Artist: Norhan  Choreography: Naya’s Trance Belly Dance
    This is an updated version of a traditional Egyptian song used by belly dancers around the world. Norhan who is Lebanese Armenian adds a modern flair to this song performed by dancers in contemporary cabaret costumes.

Dancers: Jessica Jane Means, Artistic Director of Naya’s Trance, Andrea Panasci (Ahnalya), Kimberly Sinclair (Kalyani) & Cara Wilson (Azalea).
Thank you to the USM Theatre Department and the USM Cultural Affairs Committee for making this event possible.

Also special thanks to Kris Hall for working so hard on the details of this event, to Emmanuelle Chaulet for all her help with publicity and to the following USM students for donating their time and technical expertise.

Nick Cyr ~ Sound & Lights
Heather Froshour ~ Costumes

Naya's Trance
www.nayastrance.com
207-318-0400

Belly Dance Performance,
Choreography & Instruction