



PRINTABLE VERSION - SCHEDULE / BIO – SPIRIT 7 - APRIL 26 to 29, 2007
THURSDAY 26 APRIL, 2007 – THE ART OF THE GYPSIES

MAJA (FL) – GYPSY ARAB SPANISH FUSION – 12-1.30 pm - Host of the SPIRIT, voted City Link's Best BD for 2006 is a renowned teacher in all styles of fusion BD, director of the Gypsy Tribe, famous for their amazing passionate & theatrical choreographies. **MAJA** is born in Egypt, w/ Romanian, Algerian & Russian roots. Her dance is a blending & reflection of the passion of her roots. **THE CLASS**: the wild passion of the Gypsies, the Irreverence & fun of the Gypsy Dance. – A whole vocabulary of movements, moods, drama, skirts, high energy – ideas – feelings – combinations to create your own Gypsy Dance - Full Skirt – for all levels –

KALINKA (RUSSIA) RUSSIAN GYPSY – 1.45 – 1.30 pm – performer, singer, dancer, choreographer, teacher, composer & actress was born & raised in one of the most famous Gypsy artistic family RADDHA & NIKOLAI VOLSHANINOV, began her career at early age & traveled the world touring w/ them. **KALINKA** is the first & only teacher in Gypsy Culture & Dance from Russia in Fl. **THE CLASS**: The Gypsy folk dance from Russia is full of electrifying rhythms, movements & expressions that is magical in gypsy dance. **KALINKA** will share combos w/ Shawl, shoulder movements, skirts techniques & traditional folk step dance. FULL SKIRT & dancing medium heel shoes (if you have them.)

NIURCA MARQUEZ (FL) SOUL FLAMENCO – 3.30 -5pm – THIS IS NOT A FLAMENCO CLASS.....but a FUSION. Is from NJ studied w/recognized Flamenco masters in the US & in Spain, received various grants for her work as dancer/choreographer & produces Flamenco events & festivals creating a link between artists in Seville, Madrid & Miami. Her capacity for interpretation has lead her on a constant search for a new language where the dance surpasses the limits of traditional flamenco, thus making her particularly sought after for works w/ a set story line. She utilizes other dance styles & the Feldenkrais Method in her teaching of Flamenco to facilitate movement ideas & concepts. **THE CLASS** : intense journey into the world of Flamenco, focusing on the use of the rib cage & hips, students will explore some of the movement language of this traditional form & its links to other styles. Similarities in movement vocabularies will be emphasized making this class ideal for students of other dance styles. Movement combos will be set in at least 3 different Flamenco genres. **FAN** will be explored.

DALIA CARELLA (NY)- DOWN & DIRTY KARSILAMA (TURKISH) – 5.30 to 7.30 pm – For the 2nd time @ SPIRIT, **DALIA** a world renowned ME Contemporary Dancer, Choreographer, teacher & Global Fusion Artist in her own right. Audiences from around the world have applauded her mystical & innovative dances & choreographies that are taken from the tradition of the countries she is representing. The core of **DALIA's** work is her research along the ROMANI trail focusing on Spain, India & Turkey, & developed styles as “EL MUNDO” & “DUNIYAVI”. Her creativity of blending these Roma Dance forms together is expressed in a fiery & passionate dance experience. She is our inspiration in the GYPSY style. **THE CLASS**: slow & fast Karsilama. Laid back bluesy style (getting down) teaching you a unique feeling for the Karsilama 9/8 rhythm & Romani hand gesturing. Foot work patterns & skirt technique will be taught that will set the stage on fire.



FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2007

RAQUY & THE CAVEMENT (NY) DRUMS – BEGINNER's - 8.30- 9.45 – HOT HOT HOT hit. **RAQUY, LIRON, YOTAM, BRIAN** – Progressive ME Music, Arabic Percussion, They are everywhere performing & teaching around the country & internationally including in Egypt. Their music has a strong gypsy influence, more specifically – gypsy Turkish, Romanian, Bulgarian, Persian & more, plus they live a pretty gypsy lifestyle. **RAQUY** is one of the most popular performers, teachers & composers. Her infectious enthusiasm for ME music has made her one of the most sought after teachers of ME drumming in US. An inspiration to scores of students locally & in camps & retreats around the country, she has roused a wave of “Dumbek fever”. Audiences worldwide are captivated by her virtuosity, profound musicality & the passion she brings to performances. They are our SPECIAL ATTRACTION on both shows.

THE INDIGO RACHEL, ZOE, MARDI (CA) – touring w/ BD SUPERSTARS internationally.

ZOE – OOEY GOOEY STUFF – 10-11.30 am – An innovative dancer, has her own unique take on Tribal BD. Performed w/ renowned dancers & was a member of the SUHAILA DANCE CO in 2001 and w/ BDSS since 2005. **THE CLASS**: Sultry moves w/ an old timey sensibility! ZOE will be incorporating a touch of her burlesque influence into a slow & playful choreography she will be teaching. Will focus all that **OOEY GOOEY STUFF** that it's so fun & delicious to watch & do. If Mata Hari was around today, she might have done a few of these moves...

MARDI — SMOOTH w/ ISOLATIONS COMBOS - 11.45 – 1.15 pm – former member of Urban Tribal, is a major influence on the costuming & choreography style of the INDIGO. **THE CLASS**: will share a choreography that reflects her affection for the smooth & simple, punctuated w/ isolation combinations. All levels welcome, though some dance experience recommended.

RACHEL — A PRACTICE FOR EXCRUCIATINGLY SLOW DANCING- 1.30 – 3 pm – for the 3rd time @ SPIRIT, **RACHEL** is one of the hottest solo dancer combines exquisite grace & beauty w/ incredible control, historically inspired contemporary costuming & cutting edge fusion choreographies. **THE CLASS**: In this workshop we will cover the basics for dancing slowly, w/ emphasis on developing flexibility and focus. Slow drills & dancers will learn a combination that can be integrated in daily practice. Posture, arms & hands will be discussed. Deep stretches to help increase flexibility.

MEERA (CA) –BOLLYWOOD DANCE TECHNIQUES 3.15- 4.45 pm – From Indian heritage of international ethnic performers her musical upbringing has trained her to be an artist since the age of four, her primary style of dancing through her ancestry has its origins in the East. MEERA performed & taught internationally in Egypt, New Zealand & Europe. Her style is unique focusing on Classical Bharatanatyam, Orissi, Bollywood & several different Indian folk dances. **BOLLYWOOD** is the largest film industry in the world, producing twice as many movies a year as Hollywood. Dramatic, yet alluring, w/ colorful facial expressions & hand movements, this lively & energetic form of dance emphasizes movements from all parts of the body, giving you a fun & fantastic workout! **THE CLASS**: Combinations of **BOLLYWOOD w/ MEERA** who has acted, danced & Choreographed in the Bollywood film industry! Use these techniques & fun combos in MEERA own dance choreographies or integrate them into your own dance style!.



SATURDAY 28 APRIL, 2007

RAQUY – DRUMS INT / ADV – 8.30 – 9.45 am – Bring drums (vendors on site)

DESERT SIN (CA) DJAHARI & SA'ELAYSSA – ODE TO THE SILENT ERA – 10 – 11.30 am. - Experimental, theatrical, magical, the girls in blue KALI are back— stunning & unforgettable performance absolute success at the last SPIRIT 6. **DESERT SIN** many times awarded is the most inspirational Cutting-edge Dance Co. in US. Fusing the intricacies of DESERT SIN's ME dance origins w/ a wide array of other dance forms, drama & dazzling effects, a style emerges like no other creating a superior theatrical experience that is as enlightening as it is entertaining. **DESERT SIN's** objective is to weave narratives through movement while embracing the beautiful & the grotesque within ourselves, drawing every witness deep into the spectacle of the worlds we reveal... "We are a canvas for interpretation revelation & catharsis" THE CLASS: 3 minutes of their "ODE TO THE SILENT ERA" dance . It's a great example of DESERT SIN's use of fusion & theatrics in all aspects & a lot of fun to understand their methods & experience, filled w/ lots of dancing & new ideas. An excellent insight to one way of approaching Experimental ME Dance.

ARIELLAH (SF)- DARKER SIDE OF DRILLING – THE GOTHIC – 11.46 – 1.15 PM – w/ A Moroccan ancestry was part o HAHBIRU Co, became a founding member of RACHEL'S INDIGO in 2003 & performed internationally w/ the BDSS, awarded first place in the Star Fusion & was featured in the first of its kind, Gothic BD Dvd. **ARIELLAH's** style reflects her personal interpretation of the tribal fusion BD, & blends the darker GOTHIC side of ME, ATS w/ Indian & Flamenco influences, while embracing a modern SF very dark flavor, that is uniquely her own. **ARIELLAH** is an accomplished tribal fusion & techno-fusion artist, executing amazing pops, locks & ultra tight isolations within intricate Tribal-style work – THE CLASS: Drill chest isolations, pops, locks & snake like gothic BD arms movements. Dancers will learn a short choreography, which will incorporate these techniques, reinforcing fundamentals & will bring strength, fluidity & a touch of your darker side.

E CHAN & MILLA (JAPAN) – Taste of Japan Fusion – 1.30 – 3 pm – After their amazing success at the last SPIRIT 6, we are thrilled to have them back teaching. This innovative & accomplished pair of skilled & energetic dancers together since 2004 have taken JAPAN by storm & became the first performers for the TRIBAL FUSION representing a new movement in East Asian belly dancing. The result of their efforts, sincere passion and active involvement has placed them at the forefront of the Japanese belly-dancing scene. This fresh & unique combination of talent, originality, fashion & honesty is sure to draw interest & acclaim for anyone witnessing their style & elegance.. THE CLASS: Tribal Fusion BD Style – Mix of Hip-Hop, Jaz, Soft African & traditional Japanese taste.

THE ONE & ONLY SUHAILA SALIMPOUR (CA) - LAYERING– 3.15 – 4.45 pm - is teaching 2 Workshops – For 2 years we dreamed to have SUHAILA @ SPIRIT. We are thrilled & exhilarating that she will be w/ us @ SPIRIT 7 to inspire us w/ her Art & Beauty. **SUHAILA** is the world's most sought after performer, teacher & choreographer of traditional ME dance. A second generation BD, SUHAILA has developed a format combining her heritage w/ classical dance training. **SUHAILA** has orchestrated ME dance musicals & is director of both the SUHAILA DANCE CO & BAL ANAT, first tribal Co. created by JAMILA SALIMPOUR. **SUHAILA** is known for her successful School of Dance unique teaching methods, certification program & stunning choreography of her dance Co. THE CLASS: Layering.



SUNDAY 29 APRIL, 2007

RAQUY – RIQQ/FRAME DRUM – 8.30 – 9.45 am – Bring Drum – (vendors on site)

SUHAILA SALIMPOUR – DRUMS SOLO CHOREOGRAPHY - 10- 11.30 am.

READ MY HIPS (IL) – SPICY,FUN & FUNKY FUSION – 11.45 – 1.15pm – We loved them @ SPIRIT 6 w/ their performance full of humor & fun. **STEPHANIE BARTO**, director & **ESTHER MCCREADY** senior troupe member are back. A Chicago based Tribal Fusion BD ensemble founded in 1997 by STEPHANIE & Heather Stants. The troupe was the Midwest pioneer of CAROLINA NERICCIO's ATS format, & the troupe continues to evolve & create their own unique interpretation of ATS improves, while also developing innovative & theatrical BD fusion choreographies.. THE CLASS: Spice up your tribal style improv. & choreographies w/ a selection of fun & funky combinations! Learn strategies for using short combinations w/ quick, discreet cues to add locks & pops to your ATS. These techniques work really well for adding personality to your group improv. & will increase your potential to really dig in & interpret the music. A selection of **READ MY HIPS** signature floorwork combos will also be included. Knee pads if needed.

ARISH LAM (PR) –BELLY SALSA W/ A STRONG GYPSY FLAVOR – 1.30 – 3 pm – Back by popular demand, he gave us such a wonderful class & passionate dramatic show, w/ such a charismatic presence on stage. A Super Star in Puerto Rico, awarded 1st place @ Ms American Pageant in SF & other pageants receiving the highest reviews & honors...Learned w/ the most renowned teachers, creates & develops his own unique dancing style that set him apart from other dancers. Choreographer, actor, amazing dancer, we are honored & excited to bring him again to gift us w/ his unique performance & awesome teaching. THE CLASS: Latin techniques combined w/ BD...combinations in fusion of salsa w/ a gypsy flavor. **ARISH LAM** will share sensual movements w/ an overflow of rhythms, turns, more drama & sensuality. Get ready for a high energy class.

UNMATA (CA) – THE FAST & THE FURIOUS – 3.15 – 4.45 pm – back by popular demand, we are thrilled to have them back @ SPIRIT. **AMY** artistic director, her intricate choreographies, unique style & UNMATA's hard work brought home several recent awards such as Ensemble of the Year 2005 (NV), BD troupe of the year 2004 (CA) & BD Troupe USA 2004 (OR). **AMY** have taught workshops & performed nationwide @ tribal events & hosts the Blood Moon Regale, Sacramento's largest produced event. THE CLASS – this intense workshop focuses on FAST. **AMY** will lay down the stylistic foundation & technical breakdown for **UNMATA's** awesome ferocious shimmies, & bad-ass body pops. Each movement will include "transition-training" so it can be used alone or linked w/ other moves to create a short choreography. UNMATA is known for beat-your-butt drilling & technical obsession, so bring lots of water & come prepared to sweat!