

BERNE BELLYDANCE SCHOOL
TAKSIM

Tribal Fusion and Fusion Dance
Training Course, TTCC, Level II, 2011

Module IV – Elizabeth Strong

22/23 October 2011

19/20 November 2011

10/11 December 2011

Elizabeth Strong



Elizabeth Strong's understanding of Middle Eastern dance and Eastern folk music began as a child in the California folk music community. As a teenager she began to study the dance formally and passionately. After receiving a B.A. in History, Elizabeth began dance studies in Bulgaria, Tunisia, Greece, Morocco, Egypt and most notably in Turkey, where she developed a relationship with members of the Rom community.

A native of San Francisco, Elizabeth maintains the integrity and spirit of traditional dance forms inside of a contemporary framework. Her foray into Fusion began in 2002 when she began to wonder how to make the Old World traditional art she loved relate more to the culture around her. Elizabeth has since worked with other innovative artists including Zoe Jakes, Rachel Brice, Jill Parker, Dan Cantrell, Mira Betz, Mardi Love, Jillina Carlano, Ariellah, Samantha Emanuel, and Sharon Kihara. In addition to exploring the outer edges of belly dance fusion, Elizabeth remains rooted in folk tradition in her work with Bay Area Rom, Jewish, and Balkan communities. She performs live with Brass Menazeri and Fishtank Ensemble, and renowned world musicians such as Faisal Zeidan and Rumen Sali Shopov. Elizabeth previously toured with Bellydance Superstars and appears on Tribal Fusions 2, and Tribal LA. Other DVD performances can be found on Hollywood Video's Evolution, and Tales of Desire I & II. Elizabeth currently teaches and performs internationally as a solo artist, with Bellydance Evolution, and with Beats Antique. Her self-produced Turkish Roman instructional DVD will soon be released.

The purpose of this 30 hours module will be to deepen technique and skills useful in the art of Belly Dance – specifically Fusion Belly Dance – and to explore each student's unique dance "voice": what you want to present to your audience as an artist and as a performer. Each day will focus on the basics of stretching, strengthening and technique essential to strong dancing. Included will be:

- a warm-up of yoga and core strengthening
- isolations and technique focused on : spins, layering, floor work and use of levels
- a short combination utilizing the technical focus of the day
- reflection through journaling and movement and/or visualization

Part of each day throughout the course, will also be given towards the study of Turkish Roman ("Gypsy") dance, a speciality of Elizabeth Strong's which she has spent over a decade studying first hand in Turkey, and which she has dedicated the same amount of time to developing a teaching method suitable for Western students and belly dancers. We will work extensively with the 9/8 rhythm, and build day to day on foot patterns, belly work and arm gestures and how to integrate the whole into fun, enlivening, expressive style that is truly one-of-a-kind.

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Finally, each ten-hour weekend will be separate, but building module culminating in each student's own presentation of a two-minute piece to the class on the last Sunday. Students will receive personal feedback for their piece from Elizabeth. A multiple choice quiz will also be given on the last day of the course.

Topics covered throughout the course will include:

Folkloric Overview and Fusion Concepts

Included this weekend will be a look at Balkan folk dance. Upper Egyptian dance, Cairo folk dance (Baladi), and Turkish Roman dance. Included will be a beginning overview of rhythms. Students will create their own short fusion pieces based on the pure folkloric dance forms. On Sunday the class will learn a Turkish Roman Fusion piece à la Elizabeth Strong.

Musicality

We will go over music terms and concepts (hand out will be provided). Musical instrument and rhythm identification, concepts and practice with taksim (instrumental improvisation), movement qualities, levels and floor patterns, music mapping, and how to create arc in a dance piece will be explored. Also, we may have a special, live musical guest! Improvisation exercises and practicing arc and development within an improvised piece will be explored.

Review and Culmination

The final weekend we will take our hard earned knowledge of the previous weekends and have fun with possibilities of where to go from there. Intelligent fusion comes from critical choices and well rounded knowledge – yes – but it also is born out of playfulness! We will delve into „Burlesque Fusion“ combos and concepts, and learn a bold, flirty choreography to Adir Adirim. Students will create their own short fusion pieces building not only on movement concepts but also on character and story.

Workshop Registration (*)

Information & Registration:

Berne Bellydance School TAKSIM; Tel. + 41 79 640 8203

Email: amira@amiraqs.com; www.taksim.ch

Workshop fees are payable in advance to:

B. Hofacker-Armirail

Surbekstrasse 32, CH-3006 Berne, Switzerland

Postfinance CH-3030 Berne

Account No 25-259399-2

IBAN : CH74 0900 0000 2525 9399 2, BIC : POFICHBEXXX

Conditions:

Registrations are binding and oblige the workshop participant to pay for the workshop fee. A written confirmation will be sent to the participant once payment is effectuated. Minor students will not be accepted to the workshops. No refund possible unless workshop is cancelled by the organizer. In this case, the organizer accepts no liability for any other claims.

Liabilities:

The management of the Berne Bellydance School TAKSIM declines any responsibility for illness, accident, injury and theft or any other liabilities that may occur during workshops and performances.

Module 4

22/23 October 2011	ELIZABETH STRONG	<input type="checkbox"/>
19/20 November 2011	ELIZABETH STRONG	<input type="checkbox"/>
10/11 December 2011	ELIZABETH STRONG	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fee per Weekend Workshop:	CHF 380.-
Whole module payable 4 weeks in advance:	CHF 1'000.-
Whole module payable in three instalments 4 weeks in advance:	CHF 1'050.-

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Surname/Name:

Address:

Tel.: **E-Mail:**

Date:..... **Signature**.....

(*) Please copy the registration form and return it via email or normal post to the Berne Bellydance School TAKSIM. Ordinary e-mail-, telephone- or text message (SMS) registrations will not be accepted.