

The MEDANZ Committee would like to thank Creative NZ Christchurch City for their Communities Grant.



A special thank you to each of the Festival Fundraisers who purchased Festival passes in 2023 to make this Festival a reality!

Thank you also to all of tonight's performers who have volunteered their time in order to make this show happen. We hope you have enjoyed this festival created for you by your dance community.

Interested in taking a bellydance lesson?

Please try a class with one of our Christchurch based teachers, visit our MEDANZ Teachers' Network website pages for details :

Desert Veil Dancers/Farida

Soul Star Tribe

Zumarrad & Ya Leily Belly Dance Club

Belly Raqs® with Kashmir

Yenifer



MEDANZ.ORG.NZ

MEDANZ is an NZ Incorporated Society made up of Middle Eastern Dance enthusiasts.

We welcome all as MEDANZ Subscribers - belly dancers, drummers, teachers, vendors and general supporters.

Our mission is to provide a supportive environment for MED, fostering interest and understanding, whilst encouraging the sharing of information, developing/promoting ethical standards and facilitating learning and performance opportunities.

Visit our website to find out more...



MEDANZ FESTIVAL 2024 SHOW PROGRAM



Christchurch City
creative
COMMUNITIES *nz*

Welcome to the Annual MEDANZ Festival Show.

We hope you will enjoy tonight's performance by a selection of dancers from around New Zealand.



2024 MEDANZ FESTIVAL SHOW

Belly Dance has many different interpretations in today's world. Some of the items you will see tonight will have been inspired from Cairo in the early 20th Century, whilst others are fusions from the 21st Century. Movement dialects from outside of the Middle East, including India and even America have been incorporated into our current dance repertoire, creating a vibrant tapestry of beautiful movement.

DESERT ROSE

Farida & the Soul Star Tribe - from Christchurch
Samantha Flower Nova, Melissa, Sue, Leona & Jill

This is a collaboration between Desert Veils Bellydancers and Soul Star Tribe. It is a veil dance to modern music and is modern Egyptian bellydance with a tribal twist.

MEJANCE

Yenifer from Christchurch

This solo performance features a belly dancer with over 10 years of training under internationally recognised instructors, specialising in a stylized fusion style. The performance is designed to captivate audiences with its fluidity, precision, and emotive storytelling giving a unforgettable experience for the audience.

ITS ALL COMING BACK TO ME NOW

Emmola from Christchurch

An original contemporary, belly dance, and fan veil fusion choreography inspired by the lyrics of this epic ballad. The fan veil is a very expressive and emotive addition to any performance, and so is appropriate to breathe life into Jim Steinman's vision for this tragic love tale. Chosen for its duality, this recording is sung by Meatloaf and Marion Raven.

CRAZY CAT DANCE

Shirley Jeanne and Amanda from Dunedin

Synergy sisters of Dunedin perform a high energy FCBD/Devi Inspired Improvisational dance.

EKDEBALEIK "I LIE TO YOU"

Nelum from Tauranga

How many ways I can say I lie to you, the story of a love in crisis : "Words that might be without meaning, not truly meant sincerely, but we still say them And we no longer know whether we are happy or in pain". Choreography by Jillina (taught by Tais of Auckland)

WAYUP - TITO'S TRIBAL CHA CHA CHA

Claire from the West Coast

Latin inspired tribal fusion to a cha cha beat. A Joy Aiton choreography with inspiration from the moves taught by Sam from her Divine Chaos Workshop held at the Nelson MEDANZ Festival.

IT'S TIME TO PLAY

The Desert Divas, Bellydance Jini, Nafisa & Johari from
Auckland

Let's have some fun with the maksum rhythm!

GOLDEN ERA SOLO

Lynette from Auckland

Inspired by the dancers of the time in history known as the Golden Era

BEATS, FLOW & AXÉ

Jenny from Wellington

A creative contemporary choreography combining elements of Samba and Afro-Brazilian dances

BUTTERFLIES

Soul Star Tribe from Christchurch

A colourful fan-veil choreography developed by Soul Star Tribe members Jill, Karyn and Samantha inspired by a Lisa Mäia Ambrose choreography taught with permission by Anne and Fabienne of The Spirit Inc. at the 2022 Tribal Odyssey. (With special guest dancer Farida)



Intermission

KHATWET SERENA

Jenny Bloomfield with the Festival Online Workshop Class
from around NZ

In Memorial to Hadia (Jocelyn Chouinard), an international master teacher who visited us in NZ several times and passed away recently, we are doing an adaptation of Hadia's drum solo choreography to Hossam Ramzy's musical masterpiece Khatwet Serena (Serena's Step). This is a fiery passionate piece full of interesting twists and accents, fusing moments of grace and dynamic energy and percussive surprises, including some exhilarating Brazilian samba moments. Our group has learned the piece online from Jenny, one of Hadia's mentees, and are having their debut performance for you tonight!

WHEN THE MOAS ROAMED

Soul Star Tribe of Christchurch

MUSICIANS: Samantha Flower Nova, Didge Granny (Jill Murphy), Melissa Gunn, Sue Roper, Thomas, Tasha Wolfe
DANCERS: Leona Manna, Karyn Jordan

Tribal style improv to live music that takes you back to the ancient lands of Aotearoa when the Moas roamed.

BALADI

Mandy from Wellington

This is a popular piece of music to play with my students as they love the way the music changes.

THE DIVERGENT DUET

Soul Star Tribe and Ziva

Musicians : Didge Granny (Jill Murphy)
Melissa Gunn, Sue Roper, Thomas & Tasha Wolfe
Ziva and Samantha Flower Nova bring North and South Islands together, and connect through the common language of FCBD Style improvisation.

STAY

Eva from Whangarei

Choreographed by Candice Frankland of Phoenix Belly Dance. Eva is one of Candice's students and she has her own belly dance school in Whangarei called NUR (NOOR) Belly Dance. NUR means Light, its Arabic language in Indonesian spelling.

EL BINT EL AWIYE

Farida from Christchurch

This song is a modern ballad by popular Lebanese singer Wael Kfoury and is about a strong woman who has had a positive impact on his life.

TRIANGLE

Soul Star Tribe from Christchurch

Samantha Flower Nova, Leona, Jill, Sue, Karyn & Melissa
An upbeat. Improvised arrangement using Divine Chaos Skirt Fusion to the music Triangle by one of Soul Star Tribes favourite artists Mongolian folk metal band The Hu.

YOU ARE MY LIFE

Juniper Nichols from New Plymouth

Our common humanity tells us there is nothing stronger than a mother's love. Most would lay down their life to protect their children, and sometimes that's all there is left to give. Tonight, I pour out my love for all mothers who have been unable to protect their loved ones. Inta Omri is the first cover song released by the Palestinian metal band, Khalas - whose name means "Enough!" in the sense of "This has to stop!"

EL HOB KOLLOU

Zumarrad from Christchurch

*Oriental dance solo to the Bassem Yazbek version of this majestic and deliciously moody and varied Oum Kalthoum classic - all the love of a lifetime.
With inspiration from the beautiful interpretation of Annah of Sweden.*

BELLYQUEEN GROUP

Yenifer, Jibby & Chelsea from Christchurch

The Bellyqueen Group presents a dynamic fusion performance, three talented dancers dancing with purpose. Inspired by the beats of Bollywood music celebrating the story of love and a journey of transformation through Isis wings. Just as butterflies dance through life's challenges, remind us that we have the power to transform and flourish. Our colourful costumes and vibrant energy symbolise the beauty of embracing our true selves and spreading our wings to soar. The performance will end up into a percussion song reminding us of our inner power and resilience.