

Street festival



WHEN Saturday, July 10, 2004 10:00AM to 7:00PM

WHERE Bond Street, between Broadway & Lafayette in NYC

Live performances
1:00PM until 7:00PM
on the center stage
IN THE CENTER OF THE BLOCK, ON BOND STREET

PERFORMANCES TO INCLUDE

**Dancers, Drummers, Live Singers,
Instrumentalists and more!**

FEATURING

Awad the Dervish Dancer, Jehan, Amer Kharoubi,
Yousry and Nourhan Sharif, Noora E Shams,
Moroccan Gnawas, Yacine Boudjou, The Tarab Ensemble,
and Zan Asha and The City Sahara Dance Troupe

SPONSORED BY



THE NETWORK OF ARAB-AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS OF NY
www.naaponline.org/ny naap_ny@naaponline.org (212) 740-4313



THE ALGERIAN AMERICAN
CULTURAL CENTER

Live performances from 1:00PM until 7:00PM on the center stage

The Performers

Awad the Dervish Dancer

Awad, 32, began his dance career in Cairo where he worked with many dance troupes. He has toured the world and performed the Whirling Dervish and other folkloric pieces; presently in the US he has remained involved in dance and routinely performs at cultural events.

Amer Kharoubi

Amer Kharoubi is a 25 year old citizen of Jordan who has carved a niche for himself in New Jersey and New York by impressing audiences with his mastery of Arabic song at various events throughout the area.

City Sahara Dance Troupe

City Sahara is a dance company which is dedicated to global dance, theater and music, for all ages, with a special attention to children's cultural education. Created by noted Eastern Dancer Zan Asha, City Sahara's choreography encompasses North Africa, the Gulf, the Middle East, India, Thailand and China. To add excitement, she infuses the classical beauty of traditional dance with more modern or urban elements. In this case, her younger students join the adults to show off a stylized ayoub, or shimmy, particular of Moroccan Berbers and other North African peoples.

Dancers: Zan Asha, Desiree, Andrea Rivera and Belen and featuring **The City Sahara Kids:** Miss Danielle, age 9, Miss Ashley, age 10, Miss Ashley, age 10, Miss Selena, age 6, Miss May, age 8 and Miss Maxine, age 7

Zan Asha

Zan Asha is a dance teacher and choreographer in the styles of the Near and Far East. With a background in theater and dance and experience in radio and music theory, she has taken her training and created a program of classical and ethnofusion theater and dance works known as City Sahara. The company prides itself on maintaining classical repertoire as well as creating experimental theater with a modern/urban flavor. In addition, its policy of including dancers and musicians of various backgrounds, dance skills, and ethnicities has added to a true global mix. She is one of the few Middle Eastern dance teachers in New York with an ongoing children's class program. She has also offered workshops at Bally's, the YMCA, Curves, and Lotus Dance Studios and has been featured in several Middle Eastern dance publications, including *Zaghareet*. She is noted for her innovative dance fusion and is known as "Mistress of the Double Veil," for her exceptional veil work.

Noora E Shams

Noora Shams is both an exquisite dancer and teacher specializing in both traditional Raks Sharqi (bellydance) and dance fusion technique. She has worked with Nadia Moussa and Amira Mor (whose video she is featured in), taught several workshops in New York City, has been featured on television and can be seen in the upcoming movie "The Manchurian Candidate." She is well known for her traditional cabaret and sword (balance) work; she will demonstrate her notable double sword routine in today's festivities.

Jehan

Jehan is a Middle Eastern dancer and global performer whose

repertoire has spanned across theatrical boundaries to encompass Middle Eastern arts in their pure form, as well as a fusion of World Arts, mythology and spirituality and high theater. Of Iraqi and German heritage, Jehan had taken her extensive training in ballet, Flamenco, African, Japanese Butoh and Middle Eastern dance to create a universal language through music and dance. She is the founder and artistic director of Temple of Jehan, in New York, which is dedicated to sacred bellydance. Her sought-after stylings have been featured around the New York scene, including Nell's and Paisleys, as well as abroad. Among her dance company's more notable works: 1997's "Ballet Exotique," an experimental piece featuring a harmonious blend of dancers, and her highly acclaimed, highly successful "Goddessdance," launched in 2002, which explored the divine mystery of life and Eastern spirituality, myth, and magic through dance, music and song. She has also recorded music which feature Arabic lyrics to a world anthem beat and feature musical artists from the Middle East, Spain, and Pakistan. These include works such as 1999's "Serpent Rising," and the upcoming "21st Century Priestess."

The Tarab Ensemble

The Tarab Ensemble is a group of New York-based musicians who focus on studying and performing the classical Arabic repertoire, both instrumental (with such genres as samai, lunga, dulab), and vocal, with special emphasis on the Andalusi Muwashshah. They also explore traditional folk music and complex percussion from various regions of the Arab World and North Africa, the Gulf, and the Middle East. Its members include **Tareq Abboushi, Ramzi El-Edlibi, Johnny Farraj, and Zafer Tawil**.

Tareq Abboushi is a recent graduate from William Paterson University with a B.M. in Jazz Piano Performance. For the past six years he has been studying the buzuq both in New York City as well as in Jerusalem, in formats ranging from danceable pop to religious sufi music. He is leading and composing his own quintet "SHUSMO," playing mostly original compositions of Middle Eastern and Jazz fusion. Recently he composed and recorded music for the film "West Bank-Brooklyn," and has also appeared on two albums of children's music, "House Party" and "Night Time!" with Dan Zanes.

Ramzi El-Edlibi's dance career began in Lebanon as he studied with the renowned choreographer Wadia Garrar, and was a principal dancer with the Caracalla Dance Company. He has traveled extensively as a much sought-after performer of the Middle Eastern Folk Dance art form. Ramzi is also an accomplished percussion player and teacher, mastering the tabla, riq (Egyptian tambourine) and frame drum.

Johnny Farraj is a Palestinian musician living in New York City. He studied the oud with Simon Shaheen, classical Arabic singing with Rima Khcheich and Youssef Kassab and riq (Egyptian tambourine) with Fairuz's longtime percussionists Michel Mirhej Baqlouq and Karim Nagi. While currently a member of the Tarab Ensemble, he also actively studies, teaches and performs classical Arabic music and has created a web site (www.maqamworld.com) to teach classical Arabic music theory. He also has taken part in several fusion collaborations involving classical Indian and Persian music, as well as Jazz.

Zafer Tawil is an accomplished musician based in New York City. He is a virtuoso on oud, violin, and qanun and a master of

Arabic percussion. He has performed in many events across the United States and in the Middle East, including a recent performance at Zankel Hall with Simon Shaheen. He has also worked on many collaboration concerts involving classical Indian and Persian music and Jazz fusion. Zafer Tawil is Palestinian, and was born and raised in Jerusalem.

Yacine Boudjou

Yacine Boudjou, 32, is a graduate of Algiers National Institute of Music. He taught classical music in Algeria and has performed in various venues there, in France and the United States. He plays many instruments and sings Algerian folk songs, including Shaabi (urban pop music), Rai, and Amazigh. He is currently studying Digital Media Arts at Touro College, in Manhattan.

Gnawa Moghribi Group

The Gnawa Moghribi Group, consists of Mohamed, 45, Hassan, 39, and Mohsen, 16, who were born and grew up in Morocco and learned gnawa music from their parents. "This type of music," Mohamed says, "is not taught at music schools. It's more spiritual than musically technical and is strongly felt and internalized by the Gnawi." The Gnawi are, historically, Africans brought to Morocco as slaves and laborers who eventually built a proud civilization of their own, melding their own cultural aspects along with Moroccan customs to create their own distinct ethnography. Instruments used by the band consist of traditional T'bel (drums) and Karkaba (metal cymbals) and Sentir (also called Gambri, a string instrument). They have performed at innumerable concerts and shows in Morocco, all over Europe and the United States.

Yousry and Nourhan Sharif

In the world of Middle Eastern dance, Yousri and Nourhan Sharif may indeed be called a match made in heaven. With their precise attention to technique, authenticity, distinct musicality and powerhouse talent, they have vaulted to the apex of the belly-dance scene in New York and beyond.

Egyptian-born **Yousry Sharif**, is an acclaimed master of the taktib. He has performed in numerous Egyptian television shows and films and his engagements have included concerts at Carnegie Hall, Towne Hall, and Warner Theatre (Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.). Mr. Sharif has established The Yousry Sharif Danse Ensemble, as well as his own school, The Egyptian Academy of Oriental Dance, based in New York City. The school exposes new students to Mr. Sharif's richly expressive and unique style and has created an impressive contingent of professional protégés. In 1992, Mr. Sharif was inducted into the American Academy of Middle Eastern Dance Hall of Fame.

Nourhan Sharif specializes in Egyptian, Lebanese Cabaret, and Folkloric Dance, with more than 33 years experience. Presently, she is serving as Mr. Sharif's Assistant Choreographer and Manager and is a Solo Artist in his Dance Ensemble. Her years of experience throughout the United States include performance highlights at Towne Hall (NYC); "Arts-in-the-Park" Weekend Festival (RI); and Yousry Sharif's Annual Seminar Galas (NYC). She has been the featured dancer with the renowned Aboudi Badawi Ensemble (MA) and has performed in concerts with singer George Chamoun (Zahlee, Lebanon). She was awarded "Cabaret Dancer of the Year" in 1998 and received the "Ethnic Dance Award" from New York's *Attitude* Magazine in 1999.

