

October 2006

Free!

Hawaii Belly Dancer

Monthly Magazine



CARNIVAL OF STARS™

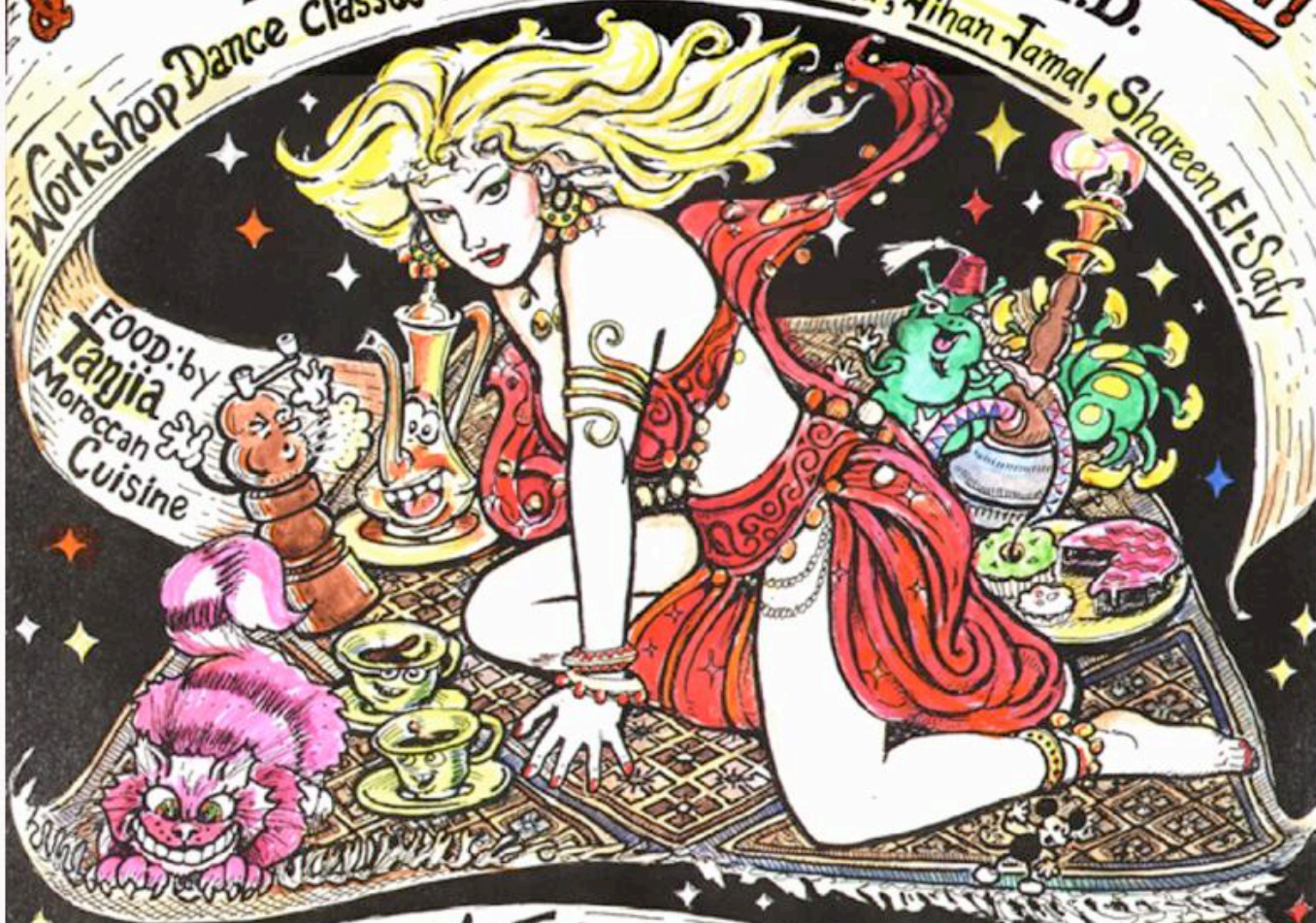
Belly Dance

Jatifa &
Alexandria
Presents

& COMIC BOOK CONVENTION & COSTUME CONTEST!
NOVEMBER 11 & 12 2006 A.D.

Workshop Dance Classes Nov. 11.06 With: Dahlana, Tihan Jamal, Shareen El-Safy

Food: by
Tanjia
Moroccan
Cuisine



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\$12.00 Adults
Children
UNDER 12
\$5.00

AT: Centennial Hall,
22292 Foothill Blvd. Hayward Cal.

Time: 10:00 AM. to 9:00 PM.
Website: carnivalofstars.com or ghawazee.com
Phone: 1-510-548-4260



CARTOONISTS and Artists:
SPAIN, Hal Robins, Mark Bode
RANDY VOGEL, ERIC YEE, Brad Johnson
George Powell, AND James White from the CLONES

R.VOGEL-05

Alexandria



Where were you born?

In a galaxy far, far away... I consider myself a citizen of the universe.

What is your ethnic background?

I am Scottish & Cherokee

How did you choose your dance name?

My dance name chose me when I was watching a show about Alexandria Egypt. Most of my friends call me Pepper.

You now reside in Berkley CA, what do you like most about Bay Area?

I like waking up in the morning knowing today is going to hold a new flavor from yesterday. I love people the life and the energy of life. I really like being around cool creative people.

Any new belly dance news in your town?

Our cool new festival! My good friend Latifa and I always wanted to have a festival that included comics and dancers. We now have Carnival of Stars. It will include my comics: Clone Comics and Belly Dance comics. I will also be coming out with a brand New belly dance comic very soon!

When did you start your "Carnival of Stars" festival?

This is our 3rd year for Carnival of Stars. Four years ago we had our festival in Honolulu.

What inspired you to have your own festival?

Latifa and I had our first festival in Honolulu; we called it Habibi

Hawaii but decided it was just too faraway for our local community to travel. We like Hayward because the hall is really big. As my passion for my expression and art grew, I saw a need for a forum for our display. Wasn't it Frank Lloyd Wright that said "Form followed function"? Creating our own festival was a logical progressive step and we wanted a place for all our friends to come and party and dance..... And show their art.

What should we look forward to when attending "Carnival of Stars"?

Lots & lots of fun and a world class show!

See a line up of fantastic dancers and a costume contest. Be in an environment to meet and get together with fine artists & writers, as well as many different performance artists. This is the new art colony.

What do you love about comics?

Who doesn't love a comic? Comics are often the front runner publications to address our subconscious thoughts, dramas, and of course, life's funny ironies. Comics are dynamic and thought provoking. Check out the GuidedSerpent.com for good belly dance comics.

What is your favorite color?

Picking just one would limit my aura, darling. I have a costume in every color.....

What is your favorite snack?

Anything anyone else cooks. I think I must have had a bad past life as a kitchen maid. I simply don't go in that room of my house, except to feed my Persian cats. I do eat and promote eating organic, though.

The beautiful Alexandria from Berkley California has been studying and dancing Near Eastern Dance for 25 years. She is well known in the dance community and has helped introduce Belly Dance to America. Her dedication to this art has led to her to become not only one of the few authentic Egyptian style Cabaret Dancers in the United States, but also one of the few dancers in the world to be able to perform and teach authentic folkloric dances from many countries of North Africa & the Near East.

What is your favorite body lotion ?

Most things from France.

What gives you the energy to make all those beautiful couture Alexandria costumes?

When you find your life's passion, finding an expression is a natural progression.

I found that so many off the rack costumes don't address the needs of serious dancers. All of our bodies should be celebrated by having a proper fit in the most wonderful fabrics we can find. I love creating in many forms and sewing is just one method of creative expression. I only sew for my friends.

When did you start making costumes?

I've been sewing, dancing and drawing all my life. My mother Helen was a seamstress.

What dancers do you enjoy to watch perform?

I love the Banat Maazin Ghawazee; that is the mother dance from Egypt. I am so happy that Edwina and myself were able to save it Maazin style..... please read mystery of the Ghawazee on the gilded serpent by Edwina Nearing for the real history of belly dance. I also love Nahad Sabry and Suhaila.

What is your favorite belly-dance CD or performance DVD? Almost anything from Egypt.

What is your most memorable belly dance experience?

Dancing and studying in Luxor, Egypt with the Banat Maazin in 1979, before it was popular to study there.... And seeing Nagwa Fuad and Fifi Abdu.

What person in your life is most special to you?

My wonderful, new, loving, handsome, kind, and sweet husband-- Russell William Hunsberger IV. And my sister Martha Sanders she is a great artist.....

marthasanders.com check it out.

How do you take care of your body and soul while being so busy with Belly Dance, festivals, comics and costumes?

WELL truthfully I stay up really late, drink a lot of champagne, and party with my friends..... I always say, "Here is champagne for my real friends and real pain for my sham friends" - It's a joke!

What do you think the belly dance community lacks? What would you change and how?

Most people in the belly dance community are really cool. I think competition is good but I feel people could be nicer to each other. You know, loving and celebrating our bodies and promoting healthy lives full of love and joy.

If you wanted to pass a note to all the dancers and fans, what would you say?

Don't forget to enjoy and celebrate your life today, now!



For more info on Alexandria and

Carnival of Stars visit:

WWW.GHAWAZEE.COM

WWW.CARNIVALOFSTARS.COM