



*Newsletter*  
January 2020  
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Editor: Alexandra Preston



## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Greetings,

I extend a warm welcome to this new decade for all of my students and clients. To my new and returning students coming this year, I look forward to seeing you learn and grow on your dance journey. Thank you for continuing in this empowering form of dance and helping to share it with the world while developing your own unique style.

2020 is already shaping up to be an exciting year for our school, with new workshops, events and other possibilities appearing.

In light & love,

*Shira* xx



*Top: Stars of the Sahara at the Moonlight Hafla  
Above: Shira in Cairo, Egypt; photo by Yasmina of Cairo*

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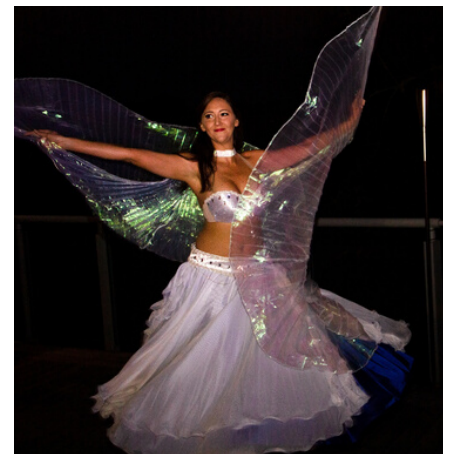
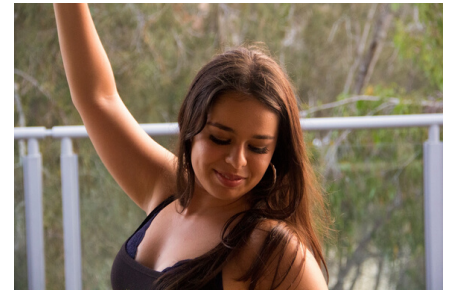
# VEIL AND DRUM SOLO WORKSHOP

Belly Dance Academy Gold Coast started off 2020 with a new workshop, similar to those in our Behind the Veil series. Dancers of all experience levels learnt a feminine veil choreography and energetic drum solo, with a focus on energy and expression. Belly dance involves both technique and style; it isn't just about which movements you use, but how you use them and the space you perform in.



# MOONLIGHT HAFLA 2019

On the 16th of November, Shira produced the Moonlight Hafla at Randhawa's Indian Cuisine in Hope Island. Our Hafla was a much more laidback night than our regular Moonlight at the Oasis concerts, with dancers performing on the deck and audience able to eat and drink while enjoying the show. The sunset and evening setting gave our dancers a different backdrop to what they usually get onstage, all beautifully captured by our photographer Andrew. We would like to congratulate our Dreams of the Desert and guests from Absolute Pole and Fitness on their first belly dance performances. We also thank our Academy members, Katherine, Amy, Maria and Sababa, for their solo choreographies, as well as all troupe members, students, crew members and restaurant staff who made the Hafla possible.



*Clockwise from top right: Evelina, Sabastian, Rachel, Katherine, Maria, Absolute Pole & Fitness, Dreams of the Desert*



## CHARITY EVENT

Just one week before Christmas, some of our Dreams of the Desert girls performed at a Charity Christmas dinner for the homeless in Southport. This is our fourth year supporting Cyrus in his Christmas charity event, and each year keeps getting better!

## KETI SHARIF RHYTHMIC ESSENCE

On the 21st of March, Keti Sharif will be returning to the Gold Coast with her Rhythmic Essence workshop tour! With percussionist and DJ Sam Nascimento, Keti is holding two workshops in the day and an Egyptian club-style dance party in the evening. The first explores nine traditional and rare Arabic rhythms from different regions of the Middle East and North Africa, as well as rhythmically dynamic belly dance techniques. By studying Arabic rhythms and their weight patterns in detail, we can learn and create fresh new combinations. The second workshop samples Arabic songs and musical styles that incorporate rhythms from the first. With a somatic, musical approach, dancers can heighten their sense of artistic poise and connection to the music. To purchase your ticket, visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/rhythmic-essence-workshop-tickets-90254554803>



## CONGRATULATIONS EVELINA!

Our Stars of the Sahara troupe member Evelina Singh has been accepted into NIDA (the National Institute of Dramatic Arts) in Sydney, and will be living there for the next two years. Good luck Evi, we will miss you!



## TROUPE BOOKINGS

Are you interested in hiring one or more belly dancers for a wedding, corporate function, birthday party or other event? Contact Shira here:

[info@bellydancegoldcoast.com.au](mailto:info@bellydancegoldcoast.com.au)  
0400 881 815



# *Timetable*

Term 1 - 28th January to 4 April 2020

## MONDAY

Robina Community Centre  
Intermediate: 7:15 pm  
Advanced / Troupe: 8:15 pm

## TUESDAY

Robina Community Centre  
Beginners / Beyond: 5:30 pm

10 week term \$150

BOOKINGS: 0400 881 815

## WEDNESDAY

Southport Community Centre  
Beginners / Beyond: 5:30 pm

## THURSDAY

Helensvale Library & Cultural Centre  
Beginners / Beyond: 5:30 pm

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