## Amara Al Amir



I started my career studying with the master teacher Serena of New York City and was inspired by her artistic approach to this dance. After five years of intensive study, training, and performances with Serena Dance Theatre, I ventured out to open a very successful agency for dancers in New York, perform in NYC top nightclubs, and to direct a dance company that enjoyed performances for cultural and corporate clients. Other master teachers include Ibrahim Farrah, Josery Shariff, Elena, and Ramzi El Edlibi among others. Seven years ago, I decided to specialize in Egyptian dance and was fortunate to study with Mahmoud Red, Rakia Hassan, and Nadia Hamdi, both here and in Egypt.

As principal choreographer, I personally researched regional movements, translated songs (with help) and designed costumes that represent traditional and classic dances of Egypt / Arabian and Middle Eastern countries. We were awarded premiere programs sponsored by The Division of Tourism for Egypt. Recently I have been the solo guest artist interviewed on The Betsy Gibson Show and The Woman Of The Week television programs and is credited with expanding the public's awareness of Middle Eastern Dance in this country.

You will find more than 100 authentic, old world, classical, and traditional choreographies in my COLLECTIONS videos.

World Artists' Dance Theatre present on the stage replicas of choreographies taught by Mahmoud Reda, Rakia Hassan, and Nadia Hamdi from their workshops of their recent national tours. These videos represent probably the largest personally designed and authentic costume collection in the United States. We hope you will be inspired to expand your dance career to more performances on the stage. While dancing at the top clubs in NY, I owned and operated one of the largest agencies for booking dancers and family entertainment in the NY Tri State region, performing personally in more than 10,000 shows in my first 10 years. I trained a generation of professional dancers topping the club and teaching arena in NY currently.

My career would not have been possible without the dedication of a fine group of very special artists. I want to thank them for all the years of devoted work and tireless rehearsals, sometimes for only one or two performances. Their spirit and generosity of creativity has blessed with me the most pleasure in my dance career.

In 2007, I relocated to Raleigh, NC to own and operate a new Academy of Belly Dance. I have trained a whole new generation of Tapestry Dancers and staged many commercial and artistic programs around our area.

I established Middle Eastern Dance Leaders (MEDLS) where I recognize leaders in this dance art regularly. I am teaching seminars and workshops both in NY and NC on a regular basis. I want to continue to bring the Art of Belly Dance nationally and maintain this dance authentically and historically accurate with allowances for creative expression and respect for the history of this dance.