

Classical Raqs Sharqi Choreography – Aziza (Int)

Song: Aziza – Sami Nossair Orchestra 3:53

Album: Very Belly Dance

Style: Classical Egyptian

Level: Intermediate

Suggested supplies: veil, zills

This class is an introduction to classical Egyptian style Raqs Sharqi music and choreography for intermediate level dancers. Aziza, composed by Mohammed Abdel Wahab, is one of the most famous musical pieces for belly dancers in Egypt and is instantly recognizable to most middle eastern dancers and musicians. The most famous representation of this song in belly dance performance is in the movie Azize (1955) with Egyptian dancer, Naima Akef. Video of that famous performance is available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2BpwDsJVgk0>

PART 1

Time	Music Theme	Counts	Prop/Zills	Choreography
:00	Entrance/Introduction		Veil	(with veil) (without veil) – Beginning off stage. * Dancer walk onto stage in CCW circle (arms open V and sweep) * One CCW turn to face audience (3/4 dancer's L) (greeting arms) * 2 vertical Fig 8 hips down (Maya) beginning on R hip (arms overhead) * Reverse undulate up (roll up) (arms open V) * 2 Reverse undulations traveling to L, R foot over L (Arms L shape, R up) * Turn CCW to face audience (greeting arms) * 1 large vertical Fig 8 reaching out and down (first R hip) (arms overhead) * Facing ¼ dancer's R, weight on R leg, L back – shoulder shimmy undulate down hip shimmy rolling weight back to L foot (Arms L shape, R up, upper torso to audience)
:14	Repeat			* Step forward on R foot, dancer walk in CW circle * One CW turn to face audience (3/4 dancer's R)

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 2 vertical Fig 8 hips down (Maya) beginning on R hip * Reverse undulate up (roll up) * 2 Reverse undulations traveling to R, L foot over R * Turn CW to face audience * 1 large vertical Fig 8 reaching out and down (first R hip) * Recover to center to step forward to travel L
:25	1 st theme (trilling down) (Faster)		Zills	<p>Zill pattern: 3s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * (Moving to L in a CCW arc, arms in L position with R up, weight on balls of feet, R foot crossing over L.) Shimmy with 4 lower body undulations only * (should be facing away from audience still traveling in CCW arc) on high trill transition from lower body undulation to large CCW hip circle leading with L hip to turn to face audience. Maintain shimmy throughout. Greeting arms * (Moving to R in a CW arc, arms in L position with L up, weight on balls of feet, L foot crossing over R.) Shimmy with 2 lower body undulations only * (should be facing away from audience still traveling in CW arc) on high trill transition from lower body undulation to large CW hip circle leading with R hip to turn to face audience. Maintain shimmy throughout. Greeting arms
:34	Accents 1		Zills	<p>Zill pattern: Both zills double clap on accents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * (Facing audience, arms in L position, L up, R out. Head profile R) R hip hit diagonal out/up (weighted)

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * (Arms transition to L cross body, R up. Head profile L down towards hip) L hip hit diagonal out/up (weighted) * (Arms transition down through center to both up then travel down beside body and end back at top) Shimmy with weight evenly distributed
:41	Theme 2			<p>(Facing audience, arms move to R up, L front for down hips)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Step forward, R ft, Touch front L * 5 Down hips with music (L, R, L, R, L) * 3 Down his with twist back, release foot on third (1, 2, 3 release to turn ¼ L) (arms cross in front to open in up front touch head height, look at audience over R shoulder and present R hip) * R Hip down Vs (fwd/down, center/up, back/down, center/up, fwd/down, center/up, back/down, center/up, fwd/down, center/up, back/down to turn to face ¾ audience dancer's R)
:49				<p>(Pose pretty line/arabesque with weight on R leg, L leg outstretched behind, L arm out and down same angle as leg, R arm up angle)</p> <p>2 ½ amis clockwise into 1 reverse undulation</p>