

Camel Tracks



May/June 2010

A Khan-Al-Kalili Experience

by Deb Bard

The best way to describe this market is an ancient mall on steroids. It was a maze of shops selling anything and everything Egyptian. Everywhere in Cairo was sensory overload and the Khan was a perfect example. Glass, metal, leather, clothing, mother-of-pearl, silver, gold, and vibrant colors stacked floor to ceiling and covering every available space.



The sounds were plentiful as well. Salesmen trying to coax us into their shops with, "Beautiful eyes.", "How can I take your money?", and "You dropped something. My heart!" One even tried to sell Catherine a stray cat she had spotted. "You like? I sell it to you!" Aegela advised us to pass by these shops and guided us to her favorites.



When we entered a shop, we always sat and had mint tea. Even though some shops were the size of a standard walk-in closet, they always had a place for us to sit and sip tea while we talked. Visiting always happened before shopping and sometimes lasted a couple hours. Eventually, we would explore the shop. Nothing had prices. We would just make piles of our potential purchases and the shopkeeper would give us a price after we made our choices. Lucky for us, we were given excellent prices because we had our Aegela coupon with us. In general though, haggling

is the practice and is expected. They may actually be disappointed if the shopper doesn't haggle. It's part of the fun.

I felt very welcome when at the Khan. Drinking tea, visiting, and pulling everything from their nooks and crannies to show us with pride what they had. It was one of my favorite places to be. I can say that we now have several friends at the Khan.



A Belly Poem...

by Sarah Venier

Dear God,
Please help my eyelashes go on straight
Control the jealousy of my mate
While I'm changing with cattans tossin'
Keep those peeping dish washers washing
Make the music play just right
No skips, stops, scratches all through the night
Help keep my zills tight on all show
So that aflyin they do not go
Add to that bras, bottoms, and tops
Tonight we need no unexpected pops
When they shout Ompa and light
Please let it not catch my veil in flight
And when the sword's placed on my head,
Remind the waitress to turn around instead...
Of trying to squeeze on closely by
And catch a dull blade to the eye
And when I do my Turkish drop
Please help me be able to get back up
And if there are some tiny slips
Help cover it with my fabulous hips
With each shimmy, shake, and snake
A new belly fan I hope to make.
Kiss kiss
Amen

*Sarah wrote this poem before her debut performance at Mano's.

Aegela

Centers for Middle Eastern Dance

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Camel Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1 Aegela teaches at Circle of Lotus Retreat	2 Mystic Lotus Spring Hafla
3	4	5	6	7	8 Detroit Raqs Aegela teaches	9 Detroit Raqs Mother's Day
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Aegela in Medina, OH
17	18	19	20	21 Barb Mauter's Birthday Aegela Intensive Workshop in Akron, OH	22 Aegela Intensive Workshop in Akron, OH	23 Jill Borcher's Birthday Aegela Intensive Workshop in Akron, OH
24	25	26 Sarah Venier's Birthday	27	28	29	30 End of Spring Series

May 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31 Memorial Day	1 Rehearsal at Maumee Indoor Theater	2	3	4	5 Aegela Dance Company at Old West End Festival	6 Evolutions Production Brighton England's Birthday
7	8 Nikki Yancy's Birthday	9 Aegela teaches Sylvania Country Club	10	11	12 Brooke Fasnaugh's Birthday	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Ellie Schultz's Birthday	20 Father's Day Aegela Dance Company at Arab Festival, Detroit
21	22	23 Emily Boudouns' Birthday	24	25	26	27
28	29 Mary Long's Birthday	30				

June 2010

Have You Heard?

Sandi Garrett and fiancé Nate got married on Tuesday Feb 2, 2010! While they planned on marrying later, Nate is deploying to Afghanistan in July of this year and Sandi wanted to be married for a little while before he left. Sandi also started her first "big-kid job" on Feb 8 at NAMSA, which is a company that runs tests on products in the medical field. Congrats on both counts Sandi!

Kelly Ford has accepted a new job at First Solar, Inc. as Administrator, Customer Service. Kelly is also moving in with her boyfriend of over a year, Brandon to a townhouse. Double congrats Kelly!

Amanda Sheets gave birth to her fourth baby March 31! Her family welcomed baby Payton Lea Sheets, who weighed in at 6 lbs., 9 oz. and was 19 and 1/2 inches long. Reports say Payton is an absolute blessing. Congrats Amanda and family!

Elif Kam was in the University of Toledo's production "Creation/ Doomsday: Selections from the Chester Mystery Cycle Plays" on from April 16-18 and April 21-25.

Holly Hillyer and husband Zach have graduated from the University of Toledo Law School. Congrats to both!

Flea Agora a Success!

March 27 was a whirlwind for the studio. In conjunction with the Mystic Lotus group from Michigan, the Belly Flea Agora held its usual vending and fanfare. This year, two workshops featuring Carmine Guida of New York were held in conjunction, focusing on drumming and communication with drummers. The Flea Agora featured many wonderful performances, including some with a live band. The Aegela Monster After Party was also a hit!