

# Dance Journal

## Assignment 1

Select a classic bellydance composition from Suhaila's website list, preferably one you have not previously used for any other assignment. Listen to the music and research it (title, lyrics, translation, composer, singer, etc.)

Imagine a story line for the composition. Who is the main character in the story. What is her story? The composition represents one moment or part of her life. Outline or write her fairytale in your journal (no more than 70 words).

Create a collage(s) representing the structure and theme of the composition.

Select three adjectives and three colors to describe your main character. Use those adjectives and colors to create a collage 'explaining' who she is.

Create your three words to title of describe your fairytale. . . nouns, adjectives, etc.

FAIRYTALEGERISM    BeleivacaBility  
knowforSureism    SORROWGASTICally  
BLAHSTERN    Songfordable  
unforgetist

# Dance Journal Assignment 2

Select a bellydance composition from the list of classics on Suhaila's website, preferably one you have not used previously for any assignment. Listen to the music and research it (title, lyrics, translation, composer, singer, etc.)

What is your emotional perspective for the composition?  
List three sounds that represent the sentiment and represent those sounds in a collage.

List the names of two additional songs/compositions that have the same emotional intent.

Would they be represented by the same collage?

Imagine a scene or setting for the composition.  
Using scraps, markers, etc. . . . draw, collage, build, and/or design the setting.

Who is the featured person of the song or composition.  
Imagine that character has a small box hidden away that contains four of her most valued possessions.  
What are those most valued possessions?  
List them by using only textural adjectives.

Listen. . . what is she saying?  
Why would she wear THAT?  
A truly valued gift.  
I'm talking. . . why aren't you listening?  
Glue glue glue.  
WHY?!?!?!?!?  
I'm hungry. . .  
Let's look out the window.  
Where is my box?

## *Dance Journal* *Assignment 3*

Select a bellydance composition from the list of classics on Suhaila's website, preferably one you have not previously used for any assignment.

Listen to the music and research it (title, lyrics, translation, composer, singer, etc.)

*feel*  
*eat*  
*draw*

Who is the main character of the story?  
What if you were writing a script about her?  
Imagine her in a scene with her best friend,  
telling the story of the composition. . .  
how she feels. . .  
and imagine what organic gestures she makes. . .  
eyes, face, pitch of her head, hands, body language.  
What does her voice sound like?  
Without editing yourself,  
write down or draw or doodle her gestures. . .

What letter or note or telegram  
would your main character most want to receive?  
Who wrote it?  
Write the letter, but limit it  
to no more than 30 words.

The piece has a message  
or emotional intent;  
declare specifically  
what that message or intent is.

*haiku*  
*smell*

## Dance Journal Assignment 4

Select a bellydance composition from the list of classics on Suhaila's website, preferably one you have not previously used for any assignment. Listen to the music and research it (title, lyrics, translation, composer, singer, etc.)

Select a minimum of 20 consecutive measures of 8 counts (or equivalent). For each measure:

- 1) assign a specific emotional intent for that measure.
- 2) list 3-5 words (colors, textures, etc.) that further define or refine the emotion in that measure.

*What did you mean by that? You whisper, and I can't hear you! You yell, and I don't get it!*

For each measure, using what you wrote above, create movements or gestures to match. Document in your journal.

*Did you see that? Did you feel that? I "know". Tell me more...*