

## **Legal rights to choreographies, music, videos and DVDs**

Since in the recent years there has been a lot of discussion about this matter we wish to clarify some things regarding this subject.

**We do agree** that our choreographies be performed by those who learn them directly from us or from our instructional videos and/or DVDs as long as it is clearly announced who the choreographer is.

### **We do not agree:**

- 1) That our choreographies be taught without our authorization. Can you imagine that anyone who feels like it, would teach choreographies by Balanchine, Michael Smuin, Antonio Gades or Petipa without legal consequences? (Who does not know the above mentioned choreographers should quickly check the net to improve education as dancer or dance teacher)
- 2) That our choreographies be used for Video, DVD, or web pages without our authorization. This includes also our music and video/DVD productions.
- 3) That our choreographies be changed and be performed as such. It is alright when an accomplished dancer wishes to change one or two movements or decides to leave out a movement which does not suit her, yet, further changes alter the character of the choreographies. This includes choreographies for soloists being altered for group dances or duets or folklor dances with traditional movements being altered in any way.
- 4) That choreographies which are never taught in workshops and that are not featured in instructional videos/DVDs be downloaded from videos/DVDs for arbitrary unauthorized use.

There is a clear difference between inspiration and theft. Whoever wishes to dance a choreographie should pay for classes to those who created it. Whoever is not prepared to create their own teaching material should is simply not yet qualified to be a teacher. We are glad if our students use our teaching concept and system as a guide for their own, but the teaching of our choreographies is not permitted. It is ilegal and against our wishes.

We are glad if our Video, DVD and Music productions are to your liking and you chose to use them.

### **We do not agree that:**

- 5) See position 2) by choreographies.
- 6) That pirate stolen copies – that includes single tracks!!! – be copied and given away or sold to others. We invest a great deal of money, love and experience in our productions and will not tolerate such abuse. The laws regarding this matter are very clear.

We provide the chance for anyone to purchase our productions at reasonable wholesale prices. There is absolutely no need for pirating and theft.

In the bellydance scene there is a lot of complaining and nagging about not being accepted by the general public and not being recognized by other dance forms as being a legitimate art form. Perhaps the subject of legal rights is a subject that has to do with professionalism. It is time that all oriental dancers be aware of it.

If you have questions about this matter we welcome your mails or calls.

Beata & Horacio Cifuentes