

# Pip E-Lysaah Bennington

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E-Lysaah, meaning “to entice” is a belly dancer of five years, with a specialisation in tribal fusion style. Whilst working full time for an IT firm in Wellington, she teaches four dance classes a week, runs bi-weekly rehearsal/practice sessions for performing dancers and runs a further three classes a week with rotating teachers.

An invitation in 2007 to choreograph a Belly Dance themed Cabaret Show has led to E-Lysaah leading the way with Belly Dance Cabaret Shows in New Zealand, her passion for incorporating the alternative has led to combined shows featuring fire, aerial, juggling and other sideshow acts.

## Particulars

Sex:	Female	Born:	1973
Height:	5' 4"	Build:	Slim
Hair:	Dark Brown	Nationality:	New Zealand
Eyes:	Brown		Holds current passport and drivers licence

## Website:

<http://www.hedonistacal.com>

<http://www.belly.co.nz>

## Style

E-Lysaah’s style covers tribal, tribal fusion and performance oriented belly dance. She takes contemporary, modern music and mixes it with belly dance to provide viewable entertainment to an audience. She does not perform authentic Middle Eastern belly dance, leaving this to fellow expert dancers, but instead infuses the essence of Middle Eastern belly dance into something contemporary and performance focused.

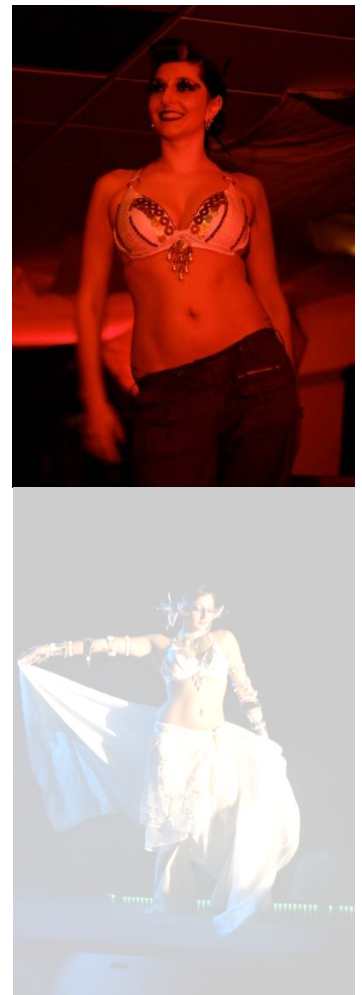
This has involved the use of modern props such as fire fans, crystals orbs, fan veils and isis wings and a music range from classical Beethoven through techno remixes of Phantom of the Opera and up to pop music.

She is not only a teacher of belly dance, but a member of oceanic tribal troupe Kiwi Iwi and leader of the Red Queens, a revolving group of belly dancers focused on the quirky side of life.

## Performances

E-Lysaah is a regular local dancer, taking opportunities to perform where, and when she is invited, performances over the last 12 months have included:

2010	28 Feb	Hafla, Tribal Massive, Vegas, USA
	20 Feb	Fusion Menagerie BellyCab, Deb Rubin Show, NZ
	13 Feb	Hafla, School of Contemporary Belly Dance, NZ
	9 Feb	SINZ, Tattoo Convention, Christchurch, NZ
2009	16 Jan	Berlin Burlesque, NZ
	5 Dec	Club Oriental
	13-14 Nov	BellyCab



29 Aug	Workshop Hafla, Tokoroa, NZ
27 Jul – 9 Aug	Fringe Club in the Christchurch Arts Festival, NZ
19-20 June	Night of the Sideshow Gypsies, The Loons, Christchurch, NZ
16 May	TribalFest, Sebastopol, CA, USA
2 May	BellyCab
21 March	BellyCab - party style recital featuring Melusina
7 March	Hafla - Tribal Massive, Las Vegas, USA
20 February	Private Function
23 January	Wellington Hafla, Newtown Community Theatre

### **Choreographer/Producer/Director**

E-Lysaah is not only a performer and teacher, but choreographer, producer and director of belly dance events, she has personally produced, from ground level the following events:

- “Night of the Sideshow Gypsies”: June 2009
- “BellyCab” Shows: March 2009, May 2009, November 2009, February 2010
- “Melusina” Show: September 2008
- “Berlin Burlesque” Show, Red Queen item: June 2008
- “Middle Eastern Recital”: April 2008
- “Arabian Nights” Belly Dance Show: Five Shows between August 2007 - 2008

### **Training**

E-Lysaah undertakes regular formal dance training, focusing on her performance and tribal fusion skills with international level teachers, along with ego-free training with her fellow dancers, some of her training over the last three years has included:

- 2010: 9 hours with Mira Betz, USA
- 2009-2010: 20 hours with Heather Stants, USA
- 2009-2010: 12 hours with Amy Sigil, USA
- 2009-2010: 30 hours with Mardi Love, USA
- 2008 – 2009: 24 hours with Melusina, AU
- 2006 – 2010: 66 hours with Rachel Brice, USA
- 2007 – 2008: Oriental Belly Dance with Cairo, NZ
- 2007 – 2008: Annual Balkan and Middle Eastern Dance and Music Camp, 3 days, AU
- 2005 – 2009: Annual Middle Eastern Dance Associate of NZ Workshop Festival, 3 days, NZ
- 2005 – 2007: 31 hours with Carolena Neruccio, USA (General Skills Certified)

### **Teaching**

- 2009: Weekly Tribal Fusion Class
- 2006 – 2009: Weekly Tribal Class in Wellington
- 2005 – 2009: Weekly Level 3 Tribal Class at School of Contemporary Belly Dance
- 2004 – 2009: Weekly Level 2 Tribal Class at School of Contemporary Belly Dance

***She dances, she performs, she teaches, she follows, she leads, she produces, she directs, she choreographs and if you let her, she provide you with the best performance belly dance entertainment this side of the equator !!***