

# Danser

February 2006

## Leila Haddad at the Trianon Theatre

### A travel to Upper Egypt with Leila Haddad's dances

Great priestess of Oriental dance which she got out of the degrading "belly dancing" style performed in cabarets, Leila Haddad, adorned with jewels, performs a solo on *In the Ghawazee's Footsteps*, those Gipsy dancers from Upper Egypt. Following the curls of the virtuoso improvisations of seven Nile musicians, she weaves the threads of the Gipsy epic to create a changing choreography according to the spirit of each evening.

For her, Oriental dance is heiress to the immemorial sacred dances engraved on Egyptian and Indian temples. Upper Egypt took them in together with the music from Rajasthan before the wandering of Gipsy tribes through all the Mediterranean.

Wearing a long black and red skirt in the *ghaziyeh* tradition or a tulle dress embroidered with silver like it used to be in the past in Assiut, Leila stamps her foot on the ground, jingles the little cymbals on her fingertips, spins round to reach the fire of trance, like the duende in Flamenco dance.