

A NOUS PARIS

Tracking down Tarab

Leila Haddad in "In the Footsteps of the Ghawazee" and "Zikrayat".

Femininity, self-seduction, rehabilitation of the intelligent and fully assumed body: such are the main themes from among which Leila Haddad draws the complex twists and turns of her creations. Far from an ethnographic show, the high priestess of Oriental dance (don't talk to her about belly dancing!) strives to restore this too often despised major art to favour. Like her colleagues (Isadora Duncan, Ruth Saint-Denis...), this heiress of immemorial sacred dances is trying to rehabilitate this major art form, too often looked down upon.

Her objectives are to dance on theatre stages and explore connections between past and present, Oriental dance and modern dance...). Upholders of this trend to renewal will be able to see her again at the Trianon theatre for a "gauntlet" show in two parts.

Accompanied by seven Gipsy musicians from the Nile, Leila Haddad draws inspiration from the original dances with "In the Footsteps of the Ghawazee", a sensual and colourful solo dance in which Ghawazee dances from Upper Egypt blend with those of Kalbeyas from Rajasthan (2nd - 5th February).

Zikrayat, a choreography for nine dancers, will merge with the voice curls of the "Star of the East", alias Oum Kalsoum (14th - 19th February).

Improvisations and wanderings woven into Tarab (a state of trance and ecstasy), correspondences between classical scholarly music and popular music, subtle plays of shadows... A symbolic and spiritual programme offered by the great star of Oriental dance. An opportunity to track down Tarab!