



Melissa Murphey – Ishtar

Bellydancing with a Live Band - The Art of the Improvisational Taksim
improvisational musical taksim can be a daunting moment in the performance. Ishtar will present three types of taksims: rhythmless taksim, fast taksim with rhythm as part of a song, and slow taksim with rhythm as part of a song. Learn to feel and express the emotion in each taksim. Get tips on how to cue and

interface directly with the taksiming instrumentalist. Cultivate the energy that the taksim is conveying. Using her over 10 years of Middle Eastern Music performance experience, Melissa Murphey of Ishtar will present tips and advice on how to look and feel confident performing with a band behind you. Prior dance and performance experience - to live music or recordings - is highly recommended.

Middle Eastern Drum Rhythms for Dancers, Drummers and Musicians

Mark Defilippo of Ishtar will cover standard darbuka-striking techniques, how to hold the darbuka, proper posture, as well as how to create the three main darbuka sounds--the "DUM", the "TEK" and the "KA". Mark will also give instruction on how to play several common and fun to play bellydance rhythms. This class is perfect for dancers and drummers at all levels.

