



## FUSION OF CULTURE AND DANCE

### A Message of Peace

At FJK Dance, we believe in the fusion of culture and dance, the endless possibilities of experimenting with fundamentals of various dance forms from classical ballet to ballroom, Middle Eastern to jazz. We combine the essentials of each to create our own language, one that uses abstract body lines, forms and energy to communicate with our audience. Dance is a universal art form that brings together humans from different cultures and backgrounds through the true honest expression of the body. Our passion is to share our art and reach out to the world with a message of peace.

The Fusion of Culture and Dance is a program dedicated to communicating peace, diversity, tolerance, and harmony, to educate and share the endless possibilities in finding connections within our differences. Through a combination of a **dance workshop**, **lecture demonstration** and a **performance**, we aim to celebrate the Middle Eastern culture and dance tradition, and raise awareness of its influence.

Fadi J. Khoury, the Artistic Director and Choreographer of FJK DANCE, was born in Iraq and raised in Lebanon. He grew up with the folkloric music and dance of the Arab world, and brings together, through his work, an experience that spans the West and the Middle East. This program will offer:

- A dance workshop, sharing the technical process of the fusion in dances, and how different styles come together. It is taught by the Fadi Khoury and Sevin Ceviker, assisted by all the dancers of the company.
- A lecture demonstration, presenting the artistic background and history of the dances, and explaining how dance brings people together. It will show how the connection occurs through the lines, curves, and movement of the human body; how to integrate the shapes in Arabic calligraphy and fine arts into the choreography; how we integrate costume and set design.



The program selection from our repertoire to be performed at the Kaye Playhouse on February 26, 2016

1. *Echoes*, Middle Eastern drums and percussion instruments with electric based sounds and rhythms. Inspired by "DABKE"; a folkloric traditional Bedouin dance from the mountains of Lebanon and Syria. Music by Shamou.



2. *Dum Tak* a combination of Tabla (Middle Eastern Drum) playing Latin Salsa by Matias Hazroum, From the Arabic Percussion album of Mario Kirlis as well as an original composition of Rumba played with the Arabic Riq by Johnny Farraj as well as a solo tabla by Houssam Ramzi. Projecting arabesques designs of Fadi Khoury inspired by from the decorative Arabic and Islamic art. Three couples perform in point shoes, Latin heels, and bare feet together in a fusion of ballet movement and Latin partnering.



3. *Home*, reflection of light through darkness, and the dynamics of separation and bond. Through man's resilience and belief in trust and hope Home manifests an intimate dream. Based on a selection of Chopin piano compositions infused with Middle Eastern percussion and strings by Peter Michael von der Nahmer.

