

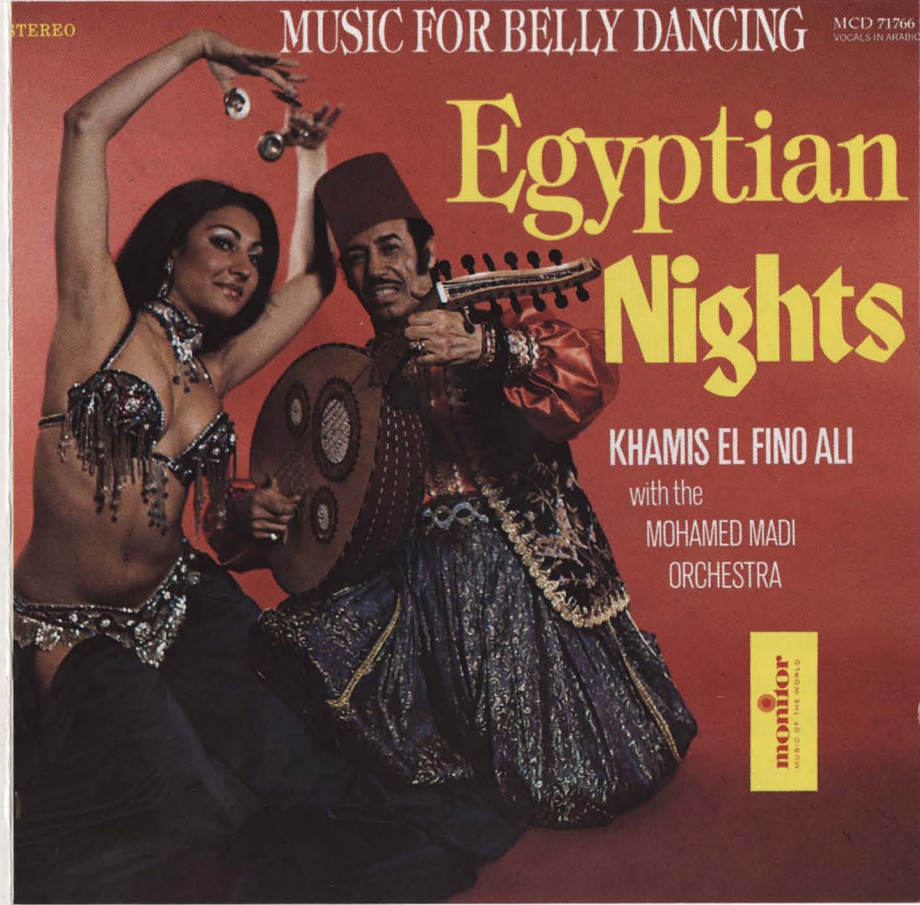
Fortunately, the music retains the form and flavor that place it well within the typical Egyptian tradition, ageless and timeless. Following this tradition, everyone, from the street-fair entertainer to the sophisticated nightclub performer will find that they will be lured by this invitation to dance.

PATRIA ALI

Cover photo of Khamis El Fino Ali with belly dancer Shimira by TASSO MAVRIS

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Note: The same selections are available on cassette: 51766.



MUSIC FOR BELLY DANCING

MCD 71766
VOCALS IN ARABIC

Egyptian Nights

KHAMIS EL FINO ALI

with the
MOHAMED MADI
ORCHESTRA

monitor
MUSIC OF THE WORLD

Night time in Egypt means exciting music. Hypnotic rhythms create magic, so that even the most reserved listener feels the urge to dance. Since the intriguing variety within each musical number makes a complete emotional experience, it is a perfect accompaniment for Arabic belly dancing.

Most Egyptian songs are love songs. Sometimes they are in virtuoso cadenza form (*mawal*) as can be heard here in the heart-breaking lament "Ya Za'ra." At other times, they are like "Ya Mayssa," an animated description of an enchanting young temptress, (set to sama'i aqsaq (9/8) rhythm, which is closely related to the Gypsy *kashlama*). However, in all of the music, there is a pulsating undercurrent, while voice and instrument – sometimes oud, sometimes nye (reed flute), sometimes kamanga (violin) – interweave skillful musical variations.

The changing moods and settings are all part of the rich tapestry of Egyptian music. In "Ezzai Ansak"

one can almost feel the rhythm of the camel as the traveller journeys across the desert, matching every grain of sand with a thought of his beloved. In "Yelli Sakin," the Western listener may identify a Tango and a Rumba, though in actuality he is hearing the traditional Arabic rhythms named *Wahda Basita* and *Duwèik*, as he is exhorted to recognize love as the very purpose of existence.

In "Min Awal Nazarah," love is looked at from a very different angle. There is bitter complaint about slavery that love has imposed. Love came unbidden, unwanted, and has brought nothing but misery. (This is, says the composer, perhaps his favorite song of the group.)

These selections are all new songs representative of the wide spectrum of musical moods of the Egyptian composer, singer and oud-player Khamis El Fino Ali. They were recorded by him at the Voice of Cairo Studios in Cairo, Egypt, with the Mohamed Madi Orchestra, which has a most prestigious reputation in Egypt.

EGYPTIAN NIGHTS

KHAMIS EL FINO ALI, Vocals & Oud with the
Mohamed Madi Orchestra

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. YA HABIB AL RUIH 4:36
Darling of My Heart | 5. EZZAI ANSAK 6:23
How Could I Forget You |
| 2. YA ZA'RA (Mawal) 4:53
The Gardener | 6. YA MAYSSA 5:02
Oh, Mayssa |
| 3. MIN AWAL NAZARAH 6:47
From the First Glance | 7. ESSAL ALEIK 8:36
I've Been Asking About You |
| 4. LEH HIL AMAR 9:04
My Love is Gone | 8. YELLI SAKIN 6:43
Come Live in My Heart |

Total Playing Time: 52:17



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Music for Belly Dancing

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