



Cristiane Azem

Born in São Paulo, Brazil, she lives in Madrid since 1994. At twelve, she began her dancing career and since she has specialised in a great variety of styles and techniques under the teaching of famous dancers. She has a Bachelors of Arts in History from the University of São Paulo (USP) with the speciality in 'History of ideas, religions and culture'.

Cristiane Azem is nowadays director, choreographer and dancer of *Fenicia* Dance Company and *Cristiane Azem Dance and Art Studio*.

Fenicia Dance Company Director and Choreographer

Cristiane Azem has created and directed the shows *Drom* (three seasons at the Teatro de Madrid), *Mediterranean* (two seasons at the Teatro de Madrid) and *Galata* (three seasons at the Teatro de Madrid, one in the Teatro Compac Gran Via and one in the Nuevo Teatro Alcalá), that have gathered more than 50 dancers on stage simultaneously and have been enjoyed by more than 30,000 spectators.

In 2008 she was finalist at the *Chivas* Performing Arts Awards Chivas as Best Dancing Performer in *Drom*.

She is currently immersed in the creation and direction of her new projects *Ziryab*, *Damned Women*, *Les Follies* Paris / Berlin / New York and *Night*, the Dark Night of the Soul.

Her company *Fenicia* Dance Company, founded in 2006, has been the only one specialized in Arabic dances which have been programmed in regular theater seasons in Spain.

Teacher and Researcher

After ten years performing an outstanding role in the promotion and research of Arabic dances in Spain, Cristiane Azem opened her Dance and Art Studio in 2004 with the aim of contributing to the artistic progress of Arabic dances in Spain.

In her Studio, she integrates the different artistic disciplines in the area of dancing in order for her dancers to obtain a comprehensive training. Additionally, she uses an inductive method to enhance the expressiveness and development of the personality of each student.

This vision of education is the result of her study and experience with masters of different specialties, especially Paula Martins, dancing and expression adviser of the renowned theater director Antúnez Filho.

At present, Cristiane Azem Dance and Art Studio has become a reference worldwide not only in terms of training and creating dance performances but also in terms of research on the history of dancing, especially of Arabic dances.

Her passion for history and research has led Cristiane Azem to use history as a leitmotif of her performances, diving into a comprehensive documenting process before creating each project.

Her stagings are also influenced by her passion for literature and the plastic arts as well as their combination with dancing and her desire to show the interrelationship between different cultures and the timelessness of art.

Dancer

Since she began her studies, Cristiane Azem has received training in different styles and techniques by the hands of great dancers like Tony Carvallo, the Grupo Corpo, Paula Martins, disciple of Martha Graham and Angel Pericet; Maruja Palacios, the Guito, Maria Magdalena, Ciro, La Tati, Manuel Reyes, Helena Ferrari, master of RESAD ; Shokri Mohammed; Lara Guidetti or Mariángeles Calleja.

She is specialized in modern and contemporary dance, arabic dances, Turkish and Spanish folklore, flamenco, stage body movement, Yengar Yoga and body language theater, among others.

Cristina Azem is currently a solo dancer of her dance company and has collaborated and shared the stage with music and performing arts artists such as the medieval music composer and researcher Eduardo Paniagua, the percussionist Mirsili Ahmed, the pianist Emilio Sanz or mezzo soprano Anna Tonna.