

# Raqs Bohème

## Performer Application Guidelines

### What I need from you:

**Your dance education and performance history.** This is so I can get a general sense of your style and experience performing. Our venue, Czar Bar, is not the typical bellydance venue - it's a bar crowd and most of our audience is not familiar with bellydance. This can lead to unexpected weirdness, and while nothing has ever happened to make any of the dancers uncomfortable, performers need to be ready to handle the unexpected.

**A recent hi-res promotional photo of you.** I need to have this on-hand so if I can fit you into a show I can put it on the poster without having to chase you down for one (we all have nutty schedules and I frequently have to churn out the final poster yesterday).

**A recent video of you performing in public** (not dancing in your living room). **I absolutely cannot and will not put you in a show if I have not seen you dance**, no matter where you've performed, taught or what references you can give. If you don't have a video somewhere I can view, invite me to your next performance - if my schedule allows I'm even happier to see you dance in person as video can flatten even the best performances.

**Your availability for the next several months.**

If you cannot submit all of the required materials I highly suggest you wait to apply until you can assemble them as your application will not be considered without all components included. It is also advisable to come to a Raqs Bohème show before applying to both see if the environment is something you want to perform in and to introduce yourself to me.

**Applications and questions should be sent to:**  
**marie.demars.bellydance@gmail.com with the Subject Line: RAQS BOHEME**

### What to expect at a Raqs Bohème Show

Raqs Bohème is a three-hour professional bellydance show, run in four 15-20 minute sets, at Czar Bar in downtown Kansas City from 6-9pm. The show happens on third Fridays unless Czar Bar has a scheduling hiccup. Call time is at 5:30, and the first set begins at 6:30. Dancers should arrive as ready to dance (hair and makeup) as possible as our changing space at Czar is small and hot.

Music is to be submitted with prop and costuming change notes roughly a week before the show (an exact date is given after the previous months show is finished - usually the Monday before the show). I send out one reminder email if I do not receive your music. **If I don't have your music by noon the Wednesday before the show, I may choose music for you or replace you entirely.**

Dancers should wear a cover-up when they are not performing.

We have breaks between sets that allow for costume changes should you so desire. I expect dancers to have changed into their next costume before mingling with the crowd. **If you are not ready to dance in time for your next number it may be cut out of the set entirely.**

While I don't mind dancers having a drink during the night, **if you get drunk or if your drinking affects your performance you will be cut from the show and you will not be asked back.**

Performers all receive a cut of the door money and the tips are pooled and split equally between the performers. Because pay is based completely upon attendance, it is advantageous to everyone to promote Raqs Bohème as much as possible. You will receive printable fliers and posters to use at your discretion no less than a month before your show.

### Why weren't you selected to perform?

There could be a number of reasons. Your style or level of dance may not be suitable for this particular show. Your availability may not coincide with the current openings as there are very few available spots. The show may already be fully booked for the next several months. Not being chosen to dance at Raqs Bohème is not necessarily a reflection upon you or your talent, and does not exclude you from future performances. Keep checking back.