



Sunday 1st December, 5 pm

## 99 STEPS EAST Dervisci Mevlevi (Spinning Dervishes)

*A brief tribute to the poetry of Jalaluddin Rumi, founder of the Sufi and Selçuk Brotherhood*



Dancer: Giovanni Di Cicco

Musicians: Sheik Nail Kesova, Selçuk Gürez

During the traditional dance, the Semazen, and through the continuity of spinning, the dancer recites mystical poems composed by Rumi (1207-1273). The dance is never interrupted, poetry and music alternate and sometimes accompany each other.

**2pm - 4pm**  
**workshop open to everybody**  
Fr. 50.- **limited places**

The seminar is aimed at everyone and does not require any specific knowledge.

The short seminar is to be considered as a meeting based on sharing and the conveying of elements that are form the basis of Spinning Dance.

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In collaboration with

**Sheikh Neil Kesova**, musician **Selçuk Gürez** and **Giovanni Di Cicco** will accompany the participants through this practice, which has carried on as a form of expression through generations since the end of 1200s until today. The technical/motor aspects leading the body to this type of rotation on its axis, resulting in a spiral motion, will be discussed. Along with the shift through rotation within space, breathing, as well as the relationship with the musical accompaniment and aspects related to symbolism will all be approached.

### **Giovanni Di Cicco**

A member of the Istanbul Galata Mevlevi and Sema Ensemble.

For over thirty years, Giovanni Di Cicco has gravitated around the world of dance as a choreographer, interpreter and teacher. He is artistic director of the DEOS (Danse Ensemble Opera Studio) project, in residence at the Teatro Carlo Felice Foundation in Genoa.

Trained directly with Master Masamichi Noro, he has become instructor, and the main reference in Italy, of the Kinomichi Method. He obtained the Renshi title at Dai Nippon Butoku kai in Kyoto.

Since 2000, he has been collaborating with the Dist Laboratory of Musical Computer Science of the Faculty of Engineering in Genoa, carrying out research on the interaction between movement and new technologies.

In 2005 he co-founded the I.A.T Institute for Traditional Arts.

### **Sheik Nail Kesova**

He was born to a Sufi family. His parents were admirers of Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi. The first to appreciate his voice and his knowledge of Sufism were the melevi shakes of Galata and Yenikapı Mevlevi Houses. He has composed, played and sung some 35 Sufi songs. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Mevlana Foundation in Turkey, Istanbul.

He received the "Master on the Subject" award at Genoa Mediterranean Music Festival.

### **Selçuk Gürez**

He began his Sufi journey in 1988. He studied and learned to play the music of Halil Yunga

He took classes in Turkish classical music with famous master Kani Karaca. Since then, he has had the opportunity to work with many music masters.

In 1993, Selçuk became a member of the Galata Mevlevi Music and Whirling Dervish Ensemble. Since 1995, Selçuk has been making Turkish cane flutes in his workshop, teaching ney and giving whirling lessons. He is now organizing retreats and workshops under the name Sufihouse.

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#### INFORMATION

Reservation +41 (0)79 646 16 14

Online: [www.teatrosanmaterno.ch](http://www.teatrosanmaterno.ch)

#### Tickets

Fr. 25.- (Fr. 20.- students, AVS, member of Associazione e-venti culturali, Club Rete Due and participants to the Circolo Teatri del Locarnese Girino; free entry young people until 16 years old and journalists)

Fr. 50.- with workshop (limited places)

Teatro San Materno is accessible to wheelchairs (non-electric) and people with disabilities.