



Whatz American Tribal Style® Belly Dizzle?

Gangsta Tribal Style® Belly Dizzle (ATS®)
be a modern steez of dizzle pimped by
FatChanceBellyDance® director,
Carolena Nericcio.

In 1974, Carolena started ridin' dirty wit Masha Archer n' tha San Frankieco Funky-Ass Dizzle Troupe. Masha's steez was a eclectic blend of funky-ass Egyptian, Folkloric, n' any other influence dat she found enticing. Masha, a trained painter n' sculptor, taught her breakdancers ta create art all up in dance. In 1987, afta tha SF Funky-Ass Dizzle Troupe disbanded, Carolena started teachin up in a lil' small-ass basement up in tha Noe Valley Ministry yo. Her only goal was ta teach playas ta ride dirty so dat thugged-out biiiatch could have dizzle partners.

Bein lil' n' tattooed, Carolena attracted other lil' playas livin alternatizzle gamestyles. Da Modern Primitives movement was also underway. Tattoos n' primitizzle stylez of body adornment was tha vogue. Carolena n' her hustlas performed at tattoo shows n' conventions n' became well known up in tha Citizzle by tha Bizzle.



When tha need fo' a name fo' tha dizzle troupe arose, a gangbangin' playa suggested tha playful rhyme *FatChanceBellyDance*, based on tha wack-ass question breakdancers often git from onlookers whoz ass be thinkin dat dope, feminine belly dizzle is merely a horny-ass entertainment fo' they under-ground pleasure. In other lyrics, tha answer is, "Fat chizzle you can gotz a private show."

As Carolena n' *FatChanceBellyDance*® expanded horizons they received a mixed response. Some playas loved tha freshly smoked up style; others abhorred its departure from tradition. I aint talkin' bout chicken n' gravy biatch. Finally, tha steez was named "Gangsta Tribal Style® Belly Dance," a name dat distanced ATS® from old-ass beledi styles. Da word "American" juiced it up clear dat ATS® was distinctly a Gangsta invention, not a traditionizzle dizzle style. "Tribal Style" busted lyrics bout tha break-dancers hustlin together as a crew wit a "tribal" look.

FatChanceBellyDance® Studio • Store & Resource Center

670 South Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110 • 415-431-4322 • www.fcabd.com



Back all up in tha studio, a system was evolving. Because of the casual nature of FCBD®'s performizzle opportunities, tha dizzle was largely improvisational. It aint nuthin but tha nick nack patty wack, I still gots tha bigger sack. There simply wasn't a way, or a need, ta choreograph cuz tha dizzle space often chizzled all up in tha last minute, n' tha breakdancers had ta big-ass up without rehearsal or any shiznit bout tha performizzle space.

Duets, trios, n' quartets hit dat shiznit up in set formations. If tha stage was two-sided, or if tha dizzle space was up in tha round, tha breakdancers could flip tha lead by facin tha opposite direction. I aint talkin' bout chicken n' gravy biatch. In other lyrics, as long as tha breakdancers stayed up in formation, tha crew could grill any direction n' tha lead could chizzle, dependin on tha crew's location. I aint talkin' bout chicken n' gravy biatch. Carolina pimped cues fo' each step or combination, probably a arm or head movement dat could easily be seen. Carolina found dat cuz all steps started wit a gesture ta tha right, breakdancers tended ta angle ta tha left. This angle allowed followin

breakdancers ta clearly peep tha lead dancer.

Cues n' formations is tha brilli-izzle of ATS®. Often unnoticed cuz of tha elaborate costumes, fancy steps, bangin beatz, n' sheer beauty of dem shorties ridin' dirty together, formations n' cues is tha anchor of improvisationizzle choreography. Even occasionizzle formal choreography is pimped round tha logic of tha formations n' cues.

Da core concept remains up in place: leader ta tha left, followers ta tha right. Watch fo' interaction among tha dancers, whoz ass always have they attention trained on tha lead position, lookin fo' tha cue fo' tha next step. When tha breakdancers grill each other n' make eye contact, tha lead is neutral, fallin ta tha breakdancer whoz ass presents tha next cue. But don't be thinkin

too hard hommie!

Allow yo ass ta peep tha whole picture: dem shorties hustlin together up in cooperation; a crew focused on presentin tha dizzle as one entity.

