

A dancer since an early age, Jrisi firstly become involved in Chilean and Greek Folkloric dance styles in her native home of Antofagasta, Chile. Immigrating to Australia in 1985 saw Jrisi quickly immerse herself in various styles of dance including, ballet and Jazz, performing frequently in Rock Eistedfords, School Spectaculars, plays and musicals.

Jrisi has since developed a unique style of movement, combining fusion work in traditional cultural and classical forms of dance. She is an innovative choreographer and dancer with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance Degree 2000 from the University of Western Sydney.

Her training in Oriental Dance began at the School of Danse Oriental where she quickly became one of the school's prominent soloists. She has since moved onto the professional dance arena, becoming one of Sydney's most recognized and respected dancers, performing as a resident dancer in many Arabic Nightclubs, restaurants, corporate functions and weddings. Presently she is the artistic director of the Hathor Dance Theatre who are a progressive Oriental dance company. Her school, The Hathor Dance Studio keeps her busy teaching a variety of classes during the week from Beginners to Advanced/Performance Levels, she also privately coaches semi and professional dancers who aspire to further advance their performance and technical skills.

Most recently Jrisi was one of a selected panel of adjudicators to judge the 1st Annual Bellydance Competition in 2003.

Jrisi is a versatile dancer, which has seen her work in two Dance Companies, Antonio Vargas (Flamenco virtuoso) in "The House Plus" a contemporary/Flamenco Dance Theatre work adapted from Federico Lorca's play, The House of Bernarda Alba. "Streets of Dance Company" a Jazz Dance Theatre Company under the direction of Virginia Ferris, where Jrisi has been both a jazz dancer and Oriental dancer, she has been part of the company since 2000. In 2002 she performed at the Parramatta Riverside Theatres with a live 15 piece Arabic Orchestra "Al Sharek" and the "Martinez Brothers". 2003 has seen her work with Davood Tabrizi (celebrated Persian violinist), 101 Candles Orchestra (Gypsy) as part of 2004 Sydney Festival Gypsy Bok celebration at Riverside Theatre.

Jrisi's work continually aims to recreate Oriental Dance, she excels in creating works which are cross-cultural. She fuses Western styles such as Contemporary, Jazz, Ballet techniques with that of Oriental, Flamenco, Latin and Classical Indian Movement. A Sun Herald critic called her work Pasos sin Huellas "captivating".

She has trained in Flamenco under the tuition of Diana Reyes since 1995 and attended Bhatara Natyam training with well-known dance artist Anandavalli and attended workshops with Liz Lea. Jrisi also finds time to attend Master Classes by visiting world acclaimed international and national contemporary dance companies such as The Netherlands Dance Theatre, Chunky Move, Leigh Warren and Dancers, Liz Lea Dance, Expressions Dance Theatre and Mark Morris Company.

She has received a dance commission by Carnivale to produce her work Pasos sin Huellas as part of Carnivale Festival 2001 and has also organized a successful dance production of Unmasked at the Riverside Theatres. Carnivale invited Jrisi to be the Dance representative in the Grant Assessment Panel 2001 for applications in Music, Dance, Theatre, Film and Festival.

The Australia Council for the Arts awarded Jrisi with a dance grant of \$31,000, which allowed her to gain mentorship with the world's leading Oriental dance artist in Germany, Lebanon and Egypt, and also train at the prestigious Alvin Ailey School and STEPS on Broadway in New York City. She has been honoured to receive intensive training in Oriental (Bellydance) with master teachers such as Dr. Mo Geddawi, Mahmoud Reda, Yousry Sharif and Madame Raqia Hassan. Dr. Mo Geddawi has been

Jrisi's mentor to this day, her school The Hathor Dance Studio is a sister school to Dr. Geddawi's The Hathor Tanz Troupe in Berlin, Germany. She also attended Ecole Libanaise de Ballet under the tutelage of Madame Georgette Gebara and attended private lessons with Amani and various Dabke dance teachers in Lebanon. The year 2002 has also opened doors to international performance opportunities. She has performed at the Egyptian Embassy and Tabuna restaurant in Germany, a five-day wedding celebration in Tunisia to live orchestra and various clubs and restaurant in New York City such as Lafayette Grill, Kush and Coconuts Jamaican Club. Jrisi is the only Australian dancer to have been asked by Madame Raqia Hassan to perform a solo piece for the International Oriental Dance Festival "Ahlan Wa Sahlan" in Cairo, Egypt closing ceremony two years running, 2002 and 2003, accompanied by a grand Arabic orchestra.

Jrisi is part of a selected team of teachers at Amera's School of Performing Arts in Newtown and is annually invited to teach master workshops as part of the Sydney Middle Eastern Dance Festival. In 2003 she choreographed the spectacular opening number for the Enmore Theatre Show, she returns in 2004 to choreograph the opening number once again. International travels are also part of Jrisi's teaching career; she has traveled to Singapore in late August 2003 to give master workshops in Oriental Fusion and Drum solo technique. She was also honored to teach the 1-hour warm up section of the Hathor Tanz Troupe in Germany and also substitute teaching in New York City for well-known dance school Bellyqueen.

Jrisi remains to be committed to developing a better network for dancers from all different dance styles. She has been invited to be a member of the Western Sydney Dance Action Steering Committee, which is a body that advises the Dance Action Project on its development and strategy and is also a key artist for the Western Sydney Dance Action organization at Riverside Theatre. Jrisi strongly believes that a dancer arises from versatility and one, which respects all dance forms.

Jrisi's versatility and natural ability of various forms of dance has placed her in a field of her own. She is considered to be one of the top Oriental dancers in Sydney today and is a respected dance artist and teacher in the Sydney Dance Community. She represents the next generation of Oriental dance here in Australia. Her broad dance skills have placed her on stage with leading dance, music and theatre artists.