Please join the UCSB Middle East Ensemble as we begin the celebration of our 25th year with our formal Fall Quarter concert on Saturday, November 23 in Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. The program will feature a number of special dances in recognition of the 25th anniversary, including a solo dance by Alexandra King, the retired director of our MEE Dance Company, who we are bringing back for this occasion. The MEE Dance Company will also present an extended medley of a several of our past Egyptian dances.

The concert will feature songs by the superstar Egyptian singers, Umm Kulthum (sung by Melanie Hutton), and Abd al-Halim Hafiz (sung by Mohamed Muharram and Giselle Garcia). Javid John will debut his own vocal composition, the Persian song, Tamanay-e Ashiq, Andrea Fishman will present two songs (one Sephardic and one Ottoman Turkish), and Phil Murphy will lead the ensemble in two songs from Morocco (a result of his dissertation fieldwork there). The Ensemble’s Chorus will also present two Arabic songs of the muwashshah genre.

The Ensemble’s Dance Company will present a wonderful variety of dances: in addition to the medley of Egyptian dances, we will present an Azerbaijani canopy dance, a Greek dance, and an exciting group cabaret finale, including choreographies by Robyn Friend, Alexandra King, Cris! Basimah, Jatila van der Veen, Jenaeni Rathor, Renee Bergan, Atif Farag, and Karim Nagi. We are also proud to feature a dance by the UCSB Armenian Student Association’s Yeraz Dance Team, and an exciting Armenian dance duet by the brothers, David and Alexander Atamian.

Sat., November 23, 2013, 8 p.m.
Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall

Admission is $15/general, $7/students - Tickets at: www.music.ucsb.edu, or at the door
There is a $5 parking fee in the evenings and on the weekends, payable in each lot.
For further information, please call 805-893-3261 • Visit our website: http://www.music.ucsb.edu/mee