

Belly Dancing in São Paulo, Brazil: Using Dance and Video to do Ethnomusicological Research



**Speaker:
Erica Giesbrecht**

**Thursday, February 21st
4:00 p.m.
GA 1122**

Belly dancing is not a form of dance usually associated with Brazil, a country more often identified with African-inspired artistic and physical expressions like samba and capoeira. But beginning with a 2002 prime time soap opera about a Brazilian-Moroccan family, belly dancing became popular in many parts of Brazil. This presentation will explore four aspects of the Brazilian belly dancing phenomenon. First, it will describe how a belly dancing scene and market developed in São Paulo. It will then explore the musical perception that dancers develop through their bodies, before moving to a closer look at issues surrounding gender. Finally, it will reflect on the implications of using visual ethnography as a means of developing and expressing ethnomusicological knowledge.

Erica Giesbrecht is at IU for the Spring of 2019 as the Fulbright Visiting Chair in Brazilian Music. She is a professor of Ethnomusicology in the Post-Graduate Program in Music at the Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro. Her recent research has focused on the role of the visual in ethnomusicology, and here at IU she's teaching a seminar in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology titled "Ethnomusicology and Ethnographic Filmmaking."

Sponsored by:



DEPARTMENT OF
FOLKLORE
AND
ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

